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POMP *and* POSSIBILITY



Matt LaForge
VIEWS EDITOR
Metro | Toronto

You can't help but be proud. Even if you don't want to be.

If you're the kind of Canadian predisposed to be charmed by these two beautiful, smiling heads of neighbouring states standing shoulder to shoulder, flanked by their beautiful, smiling families, alternately snapping on each other and bigging each other up while addressing the world's most consequential problems, then the Trudeaus' date with the Obamas might make you feel as if anything is possible. You only wish they could have more time together.

And if you're not that kind of Canadian, you're still a Canadian. You still want your country to be taken seriously. You still want it to have influence.

So, yes, for the first time, our political culture has produced a figure of such glamour and charisma that a U.S. administration sees advantage in debuting him into society. As others have pointed out, not even Pierre pulled that off.

But also, more important, the normal northward flow of political influence has reversed itself. The U.S. government is suddenly saying it's ready to learn from ours. And, as Canadians all across the political spectrum have long contended, there's a thing or two we could teach them.

More on Trudeau-Obama love-in, page 24



U.S. President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama greet Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Sophie Grégoire-Trudeau at the White House Thursday for a state dinner
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'I have never seen so many Americans excited about the visit of a Canadian prime minister' — Barack Obama

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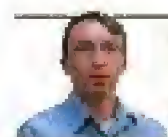
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LIFE HAPPENS ON THE INSIDE



Getting to Zero: City seeks to eliminate pedestrian collisions

SAFETY

Statistics show more than one incident every day in 2016



Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

Trevor Wilson was just trying to walk his daughter to her grandparents' home last Monday evening and then get to work on time, when he was struck on 24 Street NE.

He took the impact of the blow from the half-ton truck, but he was holding his daughter's hand, and she was pulled into the side of the vehicle — sustaining a minor concussion in the process.

The collision shattered Wilson's talus bone — a bone in the ankle — and doctors now say it will be months before he will walk, or work, again.

"It's going to be a long, long road for sure," said Wilson's mother, Kari Major.

She said her son and grand-



Engineering solutions can make crossings safer. JENNIFER FRIESEN/METRO

daughter will make a full recovery. She now wants to see changes to the intersection where he was struck.

"That particular location is definitely going to require some changes," she said. "The

sightlines are bad. The corner is a bit of a curve anyway."

Major has been in touch with her ward's councillor, Gian-Carlo Carra, who has been advocating to make Calgary a Vision Zero city.

Carra said he doesn't believe Calgary roads are inherently dangerous — noting that hundreds of thousands get where they're going every day.

Nevertheless, he sees room for improvement.

"If you had a factory and you had an assembly line, and there was a certain number of injur-

ies on this assembly line, you wouldn't shrug about it. You'd say, 'No, we've got to improve processes and get this fixed,'" Carra said.

He said the idea of Vision Zero is that a city can get to zero pedestrian fatalities.

"We used to design roads for the faster speeds than the posted limit," said Carra.

"Now we have to design them for the posted speed or lower."

He said an ideal design would have 30 km/h residential zones, and 50 km/h collector roads that ramp up to 80 and 100 km/h zones.

Faster-moving roads have to be set away from residential areas, and have more safeguards between pedestrians and vehicles.

The City of Edmonton was the first in Canada to sign on as a Vision Zero city.

Gerry Shimko, executive director of Edmonton's office of traffic safety, said the timeline on achieving the vision is definitely long term.

It was adopted only in September of last year.

"Like any long-term goal, we have our first five-year road safety strategy that's going to help us move toward Vision Zero."



That particular location is definitely going to require some changes.

Kari Major, on 24 Street NE

+ SOCIAL MEDIA

Twitter bot sends message

It's one thing to read the statistics on pedestrian traffic collisions for any given year. It's another thing to have a message interrupt your stream of social media entirely, minutes after an incident happens.

That's what Calgary's Michael Jones wanted to get across when he created a Twitter bot earlier this year.

The account @PedDownYYC monitors the city's transportation Twitter account. Any time the account reports a vehicle-pedestrian collision, the bot sends out a message.

"This is just something I was doing in the evening — more to just learn how Twitter bots work," said Jones.

He said he got the idea after seeing a couple of pedestrian advocates retweeting pedestrian incident tweets whenever she saw them.

He said YYC Transport doesn't report every pedestrian collision — just more serious ones, or ones that affect traffic.

"I hope it helps with some context," said Jones.

BRODIE THOMAS/METRO

80

Number of pedestrian collisions reported by City of Calgary since Jan 1. One has been a fatality.

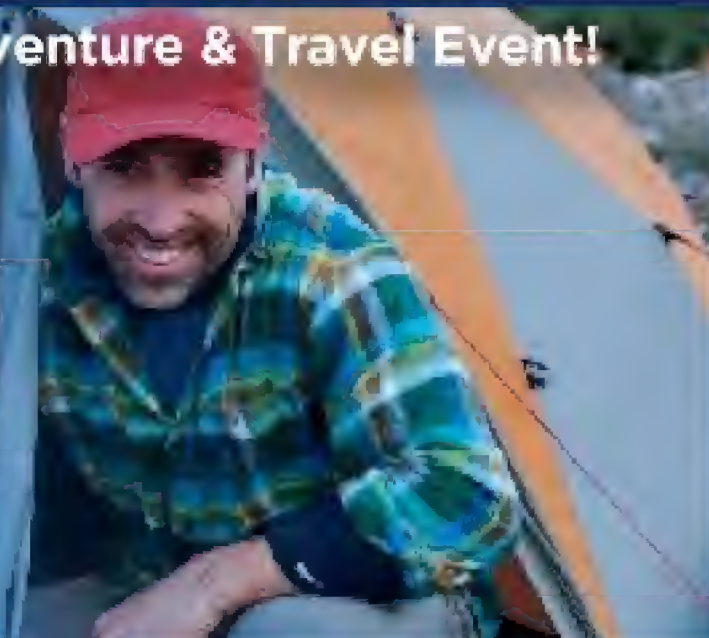
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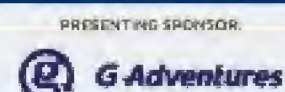


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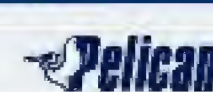
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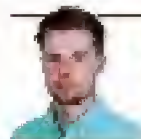
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Staff printed Alberta Caucus signage on Thursday morning.
JEREMY SIMES/FOR METRO

NDP dismiss 'secret office' allegations

BYELECTION

No campaign staff work at caucus office, Hoffman says



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

The NDP government is refuting the Wildrose's allegations that they're using public money to operate a satellite office in northeast Calgary for campaign purposes.

Wildrose Ethics and Accountability critic Jason Nixon said they believe the government is using taxpayer money to influence the current Calgary-Greenway byelection with what they're calling a "secret" office.

Deputy Premier Sarah Hoffman insisted the office — locat-

ed just outside Calgary Greenway boundaries — is not a secret campaign office to aid the NDP in the byelection.

The space is for caucus outreach, she said, adding it's staffed by taxpayer-funded employees to assist the NDP.

However, Nixon said something just doesn't look right. "Albertans deserve better than the shady work the NDP government is conducting," Nixon told reporters.

"Just recently we had \$10,000-a-plate out-of-province corporate and union fundraisers. Now the NDP will need to assure Albertans that it's not trying to use public money to sway a byelection."

He said the Wildrose has discovered two individuals working from the satellite office are well-known political operatives for the NDP.

Hoffman said staff aren't working on the Greenway Campaign during working hours, but can do what they want

+ STAFFERS' BIOS RELEASED

NDP staffers politically active in the past

Much of the Wildrose's allegations hinge on if government staffers at the new Calgary caucus office have been aiding Calgary Greenway NDP candidate Roop Rai during work hours. So the opposition has released bios of office staffers Robert Scobel and Leslie Cramer to showcase

their political history.

Scobel ran for the provincial NDP in 2004 and 2012. He was also a union organizer with Calgary Local 710 CUPW.

Cramer was an organizer for a voting campaign during the 2015 federal election and, in 2014, sat on the elections committee of the League of Extraordinary Albertans.

after work.

Murray Langdon, director of communications for Government Caucus, said the government has been pursuing a Calgary caucus outreach office since October.

He said outreach manager Robert Scobel had been working from home since Jan. 1, when the government moved into the space.

Scobel reiterated the government's comments, emphasizing Greenway campaign staff don't work at the office.

However, caucus signage near reception was printed via computer on Thursday morning, he added.

Langdon said the office employee's were listed on the government's website as soon as they were employed.

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Willem Klumpenhower, a PhD candidate in transportation engineering, has taken a look at the southwest transitway from an engineering standpoint and penned a critique of the project. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Bus rapid transit plan critiqued

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Engineering student offers informed opinion



Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

The southwest transitway has had lots of criticism, but no professional critiques — until now.

Willem Klumpenhower is a PhD candidate in transportation engineering at University of Calgary's Schulich School of Engineering, published a critique of the bus rapid transit on his website, Spurryc.org.

Klumpenhower said he was interested in applying what he's been studying.

"I felt like there's been plenty of vocal discourse about the transitway but I hadn't seen a critical review of how the transitway is doing what it sets out to do," he said.

After looking at the city's plan, Klumpenhower has a number of concerns with the project, although he still sees merit in following through with the plan.

He noted that his analysis was not financial, but strictly from a transportation engineering point of view.

20 minutes

The planned frequency of buses at off-peak hours along the planned southway transitway. Klumpenhower argues that is too long a wait for most.

He said his biggest concern is with the frequency of the service. The city is planning to run buses every 10 minutes during peak hours, and every 20 minutes on off-peak hours.

"If your goal is to get people to ride it, frequency is very important and it influences a lot of the other factors that get people to ride," Klumpenhower said.

He said if the bus isn't ready when you're ready, that's a big disadvantage. He thinks 20-minute waits could be a deal-breaker for many.

He was also left wondering why the bus-only roads run along the east side of 14 Street where services such as hospitals and shopping centres lie, when most of the neighbourhoods are on the west side of the road.

"It's easy to point out flaws — that's why I started with the good points. I think there needs to be more mass rapid transit for that area," he said.

If your goal is to get people to ride it, frequency is very important and it influences a lot of the other factors that get people to ride. Willem Klumpenhower

READY TO ENGAGE

No charges over public consultation fracas

Ready to Engage is ready for an apology.

Calgary police say there's not enough evidence to lay charges after City of Calgary employees alleged assaults and threats from members of the group at a public consultation on Feb. 24.

The consultation was on the southwest transitway — a bus rapid transit system which the city will begin work on this summer.

Police say they were called

in to investigate by members of the city's corporate security team.

On the day after the alleged incidents, Mayor Naheed Nenshi called a press conference and announced there would be no more public consultation on the project.

The mayor pointed at Ready to Engage, a group opposed to the project, as the people behind the anger and threats.

Alan Hallman, a member of

Ready to Engage, said to his knowledge, not one member of the group was questioned by police.

"Now that the mayor hopefully has got rid of this diversion — we can go back to actually talking about the issues of the southwest BRT."

He said those issues include the safety, budget, and consultation of the project.

Hallman said they are hoping for an apology from the mayor,

and have not ruled out a lawsuit against him.

Speaking at an event today, Nenshi was not backing down.

"I don't think the police said nothing bad happened, I think they said nothing criminal happened," said the mayor. "And if your bar is: It's OK to yell at people, it's OK to threaten them, it's OK to abuse them as long as you don't get a charge — I would suggest that's not the right bar." BRODIE THOMAS/METRO

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IN BRIEF

Police ask help with downtown shooting

The Calgary Police Service is seeking public assistance to identify a vehicle and a person believed to be related to a shooting downtown earlier in the month.

Just before 5 p.m. on March 3, police were called to the 1200 block of 12 Avenue SW for reports of a shooting.

Police are looking for the Hyundai Sonata that was involved in the shooting. It's believed to be a 2011-2013, four-door model.

To view a photo of the person being sought, visit metronews.ca

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact the Calgary Police Service non-emergency line at 403-266-1234.

METRO

Notley defends new union negotiator

Alberta Premier Rachel Notley says hiring a high-ranking union negotiator to bargain for the province is going to be the best deal for taxpayers.

Notley says hiring Kevin Davediuk is part of a co-ordinated updated bargaining strategy as it approaches talks with all public sector unions.

Up until earlier this week, Davediuk was a senior negotiator with the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees, which is Alberta's largest public-sector union.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Daughter accuses some Foothills staff

ABUSE

Elderly mother mistreated at hospital, says Kym Anderson



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

Alberta Health Services (AHS) has launched an investigation into the care of a woman after allegations she was harmed by nursing staff at the Foothills Medical Centre.

Kym Anderson — whose mom, Brigitte, has undergone treatment at the Foothills for about two months — said her mom has suffered multiple bruises after being handled by nurses.

"Basically they roll her over on her broken side, then they hold her like a tree stump and pull on her. One (nurse) literally leans back to keep her on her side," Kym alleged. "It's very, very upsetting. There's just no reason for any of it."

Protection of Persons in Care has been informed of the allegations, AHS said, adding it won't further comment as it's under investigation.

The Andersons have been through quite a whirlwind — Brigitte has undergone treatment at the Peter Lougheed, the Foothills and the Rockyview General Hospital for her



According to Kym Anderson, her mom Brigitte, pictured, received numerous bruises after nursing staff didn't properly care for her. CONTRIBUTED

Stage 4 lung cancer.

One of Kym's most terrifying moments, though, was when she wasn't notified by staff that Brigitte was trans-

ferred from Rockyview to the Foothills for surgery.

She said staff initially couldn't locate Brigitte at Rockyview. But after speak-

“It's not like a horse where you take it behind a barn and shoot it. It's just wrong.”

Kym Anderson

ing with the hospital's main operator for a second time, she was told Brigitte was at the Foothills.

"I went rushing to the Foothills by taxi and when I finally found my mom she was reading the newspaper," she said. "I just froze in my spot and started crying — I seriously thought she was dead."

But there's more, she added.

Brigitte has sat in her own waste numerous times, causing sores. Kym alleged some staff don't tend to her mom when she immediately calls for help. Some staff also don't appear to be wiping her properly, she said.

Her mom also had knee and shoulder fractures after EMS drove her to Rockyview.

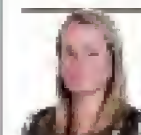
But among the staff, Kym said there are three nurses at the Foothills who provide Brigitte excellent care.

The others need to be held accountable, she said.

The Andersons are currently seeking to get Brigitte into a hospice.

ACCUSED

Massage therapist flees



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Brad McLellan, a Calgary massage therapist who has been charged with eight counts of sexual assault said the "false allegations," have ruined his chances of employment, forcing him to move.

After police issued a press release publicizing Brad McLellan's alleged assault of a 25-year-old patient in December 2015, seven other clients between the ages of 20 and 50 have come forward, alleging they too were inappropriately touched during one of the therapist's sessions.

McLellan was arrested in December 2015 after a complaint was filed by a woman who said she attended a on sports therapy massage appointment at a clinic located at 520-3 Avenue SW. During the massage, the male massage therapist allegedly sexually assaulted her.

In a statement released Thursday by McLellan he said, "These false allegations have ended my massage therapy career that I worked so hard to build over the last 10 years and have been devastating to my future local employment opportunities, so much so that I am having to look for other employment opportunities outside of the province," he said in the statement.

McLellan said the allegations have been financially devastating for his family. He said they look forward to their day in court where in order to "have our chance to prove my innocence."



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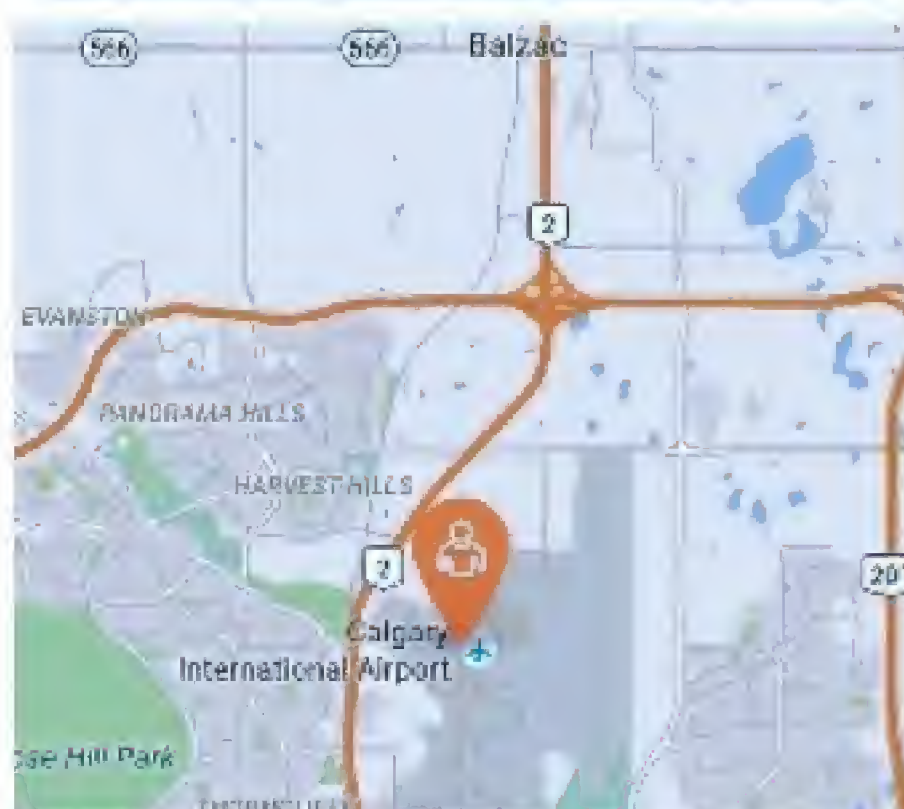


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Cowboy Taxi owner Mohamed Benini is working on getting an Uber-like service up and running in Calgary when the livery bylaw comes into effect. SCREENGAB

Company to launch ride for hire

TRANSPORTATION

Founder says he's optimistic about industry due to bylaws

Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

An Airdrie-based cab company is leaping over red tape to launch ride-for-hire services in both Calgary and Edmonton after both cities passed bylaws regulating the Uber-like service.

Mohamed Benini will launch a vehicle-for-hire service March 13 in Edmonton, where he's licensed to operate. He's hoping to hop over to Calgary after April 4, when the city bylaw comes into play.

Last year Benini got a brokerage licence in Calgary, but because all the taxi plates were used up, and drivers weren't coming his way, he was unable to operate.

"There's a lot of red tape, and now that the laws are changing it's hopefully going to change the way the industry is for the better," Benini said.

So far he only has a couple drivers ready for the Edmonton launch but added that 50 drivers have downloaded his app and there's interest in Calgary, too.

According to Carissa Vescio, a spokesperson for Calgary Community Services, they aren't sure how many companies will come forward.

While Benini is transitioning drivers to be fully licensed, he's offering a designated-driver service. Drivers will be able to pick up inebriated patrons, and their vehicles, returning both home safely.

He said they've had drivers call in expressing interest, but because the commercial insurance is pricey — to the tune of over \$6,000 — some may just watch at first.

"These guys, a majority of them are Uber drivers, they're not used to paying upfront costs for things like that," Benini said.

But according to his ads, there are options for every type of driver. You can do everything yourself, or insure your vehicle through them, even a company vehicle lease is an option.

His app doesn't include surge pricing either. He says it does everything Uber would but also allows drivers to take cash.

Now that the laws are changing, it's hopefully going to change the way the industry is for the better
Mohamed Benini

IN BRIEF

Daughter tells court of fear at seniors' disappearance

When Trudy Holder arrived at the airport in Abbotsford, B.C., she looked around for her parents, but they weren't there to pick her up as planned.

Holder told an Edmonton murder trial Thursday that Lyle and Marie McCann, 78 and 77, always kept their commitments.

"My mom and dad are never not there," Holder

testified. "I started freaking out."

Holder began making frantic phone calls and discovered her parents had not checked in to a nearby campground where the family was to spend the next two weeks on holiday.

Travis Vader, 44, has pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder in the deaths of the couple, whose bodies have never been found. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Province partners on \$1M boost to MS research

Through a matching-funds partnership, the Alberta government and Sanofi Genzyme Canada will each contribute \$500,000 to accelerate research into multiple sclerosis.

Alberta has outlier-like rates of the disease, with about 340 out of every 100,000 people in the province diagnosed with MS, according to government

statistics. The Canadian average is 291 per 100,000 and even it is far higher than in most countries. Germany, for instance, has an MS rate of just 149 diagnoses per 100,000.

"With the unusually high rates of multiple sclerosis in Alberta, it is important to support research opportunities like this one," said Brandy Payne, associate minister of health, at the announcement Thursday. METRO



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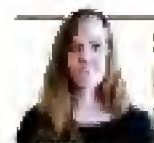
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ALBERTANS FIRST

Founder of 'Kudatah' group on why NDP must go



Samantha Power
For Metro | Edmonton

George Clark knows how to talk to people and knows when to listen. For Alberta's government this potentially makes Clark a dangerous man.

Clark is soft-spoken and self-professed to be driven by "love" — inspired, he says, by his Métis mother, a women's-rights activist, to become the rabble rouser he is now.

"When I'm asking thousands of people across Alberta to stick their heads up in any form of resistance to a sitting gov-



Anger is what got the NDP elected.

George Clark

ernment, I should make sure that I have their full input and understanding," he said from Calgary.

In January, Clark — who's originally from Fort McMurray — drove to 70 communities around the province to listen to people's concerns about the government, the economy and what needs to be done, he said.

"The No. 1 thing I heard from well over 5,000 people was 'Get rid of Rachel,'" he said. "That was clear, and then, of course, several other things related to, 'You gotta stop Bill 6.' 'We can't afford carbon tax.' 'Is there no end to the madness?'"

Clark is the creator of Albertans First, a group Edmonton got to know this week as several (the number is disputed) protested on the steps of the legislature.

These folks are perhaps more well known as the "Kudatah," after a spelling error posted online by a supporter went viral.

According to Clark, president and CEO of CARES Ltd., an indigenous environmental remedial company, there were 3,500 Albertans First protesters at the legislature Tuesday.

Outside observers (as well as



George Clark addresses protesters at the Alberta legislature on Tuesday. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

photographs) suggest far fewer.

But regardless of number, the Albertans First bused to Edmonton from communities close by and farther afield and organized themselves, Clark said.

There was no money provided to help them come, he added.

Instead, he said, they were people who wanted to show

their opposition to Premier Rachel Notley and the New Democratic government.

But their leader is Clark, and it's his ideas that have attracted them to join him. So, aside from the spelling errors on signs and disturbing Nazi references at Tuesday's protest, what's driving Clark and his followers?

Clark says he's opposed to

three specific actions by the Notley government: the appointment of Dave Mowatt, Peter Tertzakian and Annette Trimbee to the royalty review; Notley's remarks that Alberta should be "embarrassed" by its environmental performance; and lastly, Bill 6.

He says it's all informed by talking with regular folks.

But Clark doesn't want to

focus on the anger people feel.

"I understand the anger, but we need to make a positive difference," he said. "Anger is what got the NDP elected."

Clark's plans have evolved since January, when he announced on Facebook that he would enact a rare, little-known section of the Elections Act that would end the New Democrats' time in government — a section that is not to be found.

His petition warriors still gather signatures against Bill 6.

He says there isn't much Notley could do to dissuade him from his big plan: rallying 500,000 Albertans to join the NDP and have their views heard from within the party.

And there's more.

"There is a reason I was photographed with 87 boxes of signatures," Clark said. "There are 87 constituencies."

Clark wants to do the seemingly impossible: have each constituency association across the province be overtaken by Albertan First supporters, which would require his members to join hundreds of associations.

It's a big plan. But nothing has dissuaded him yet.

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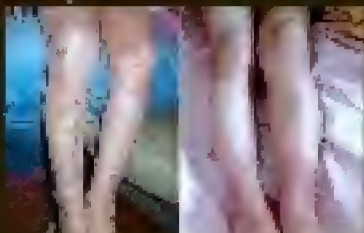
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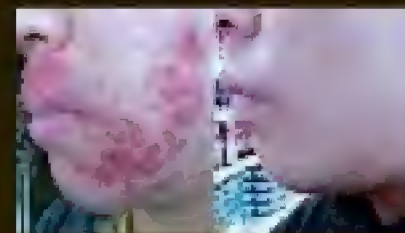
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Before After



Before After

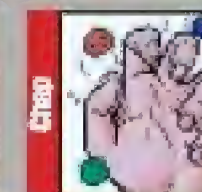
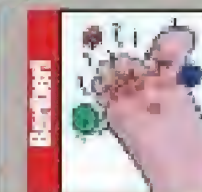
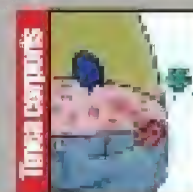
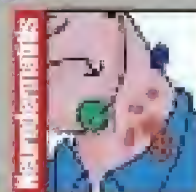


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Calgary Zoo welcomes new baby gorilla

CELEBRATION

First newborn to be delivered since 2008

The Calgary Zoo is celebrating the birth of a baby gorilla. Zoo officials confirmed Thursday the delivery of a baby to mom Koiya on Wednesday.

Koiya's delivery of the new-

born marks the first gorilla pregnancy since 2008, when Yewande was born into the zoo's gorilla troop.

The Calgary Zoo's silverback, 37-year-old Kakinga, who has fathered nine other offspring since 1993 — seven of which are surviving and all of which were born at the Calgary Zoo — sired the anticipated baby.

For the time being the TransAlta Rainforest Build-

+ GENDER

The gender of the baby isn't yet known as the zoo's animal care haven't yet been able to perform a close medical examination.

ing has been closed, with only animal care staff having access to the building.

According to the Calgary Zoo's e-mail, zoo staff are keeping a close eye on the mom and baby in the early stages of its life.

They're paying specific attention to the bond between Koiya and her baby to ensure there is a bond between the two and the mothering instinct kicks in.

The Calgary Zoo expects to have more details available Friday. METRO



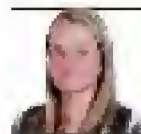
Koiya gave birth to a baby Wednesday. COURTESY CALGARY ZOO



Kim Wiltse shows off some of the donated Gown Town dresses. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

CALGARY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Cinderella's closet opens for graduates



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

A high school student's rite of passage — graduation — is a milestone in any young person's life, and looking the part is half the fun.

As graduation dates draw closer the Calgary Board of Education is gearing up for their annual Cinderella Gown Project.

Tennille Cooper, a specialist with the CBE, said this year there will be 358 girls participating from Calgary-area school boards. She said girls are nominated by school-based "godmothers" to take part.

"The girls get a formal invitation to our Cinderella Day and they come and not only select a dress of their liking, but they also get shoes, a shawl, a handbag and some jewelry," she said.

Cooper said the day is about helping the girls celebrate their academic accomplishments — no matter what their individual situations might be.

"It's about the girls feeling pampered and important," she

said. "It really is important to them not only to have their dress and be ready for their graduation day, but to celebrate their educational achievements."

A highlight of the Cinderella Project, according to Cooper, is the relationship fostered between the girls and their godmothers/guidance counsellors.

"There's often a relationship that's developed between the girls and their godmother, which is equally important as the event," she said.

Cooper said dress donations can be dropped off at Central Memorial High School, but monetary donations are also accepted to help the Cinderella Project buy shoes or dresses for girls that might not fit dresses that have been donated.

Kim Wiltse, marketing director for Marlborough Mall, said they will also be hosting their ninth annual Gown Town event, where with a school ID card, grade 9 and 12 graduates can pick any dress for just \$10.

Wiltse said they're expecting lots of girls this year, and are still looking for donations.

It's about the girls feeling pampered and important.

Tennille Cooper



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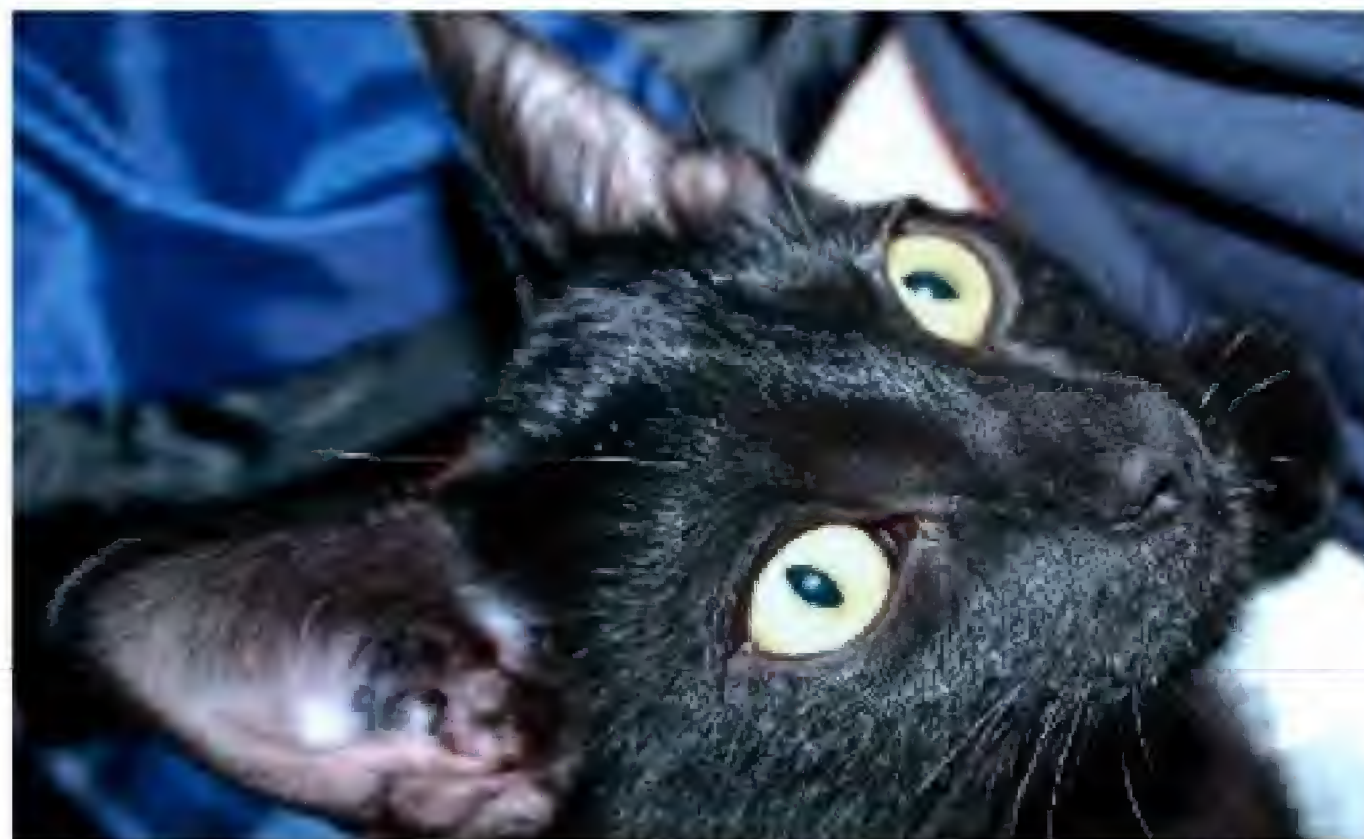
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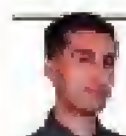


Darcy McCurdy said she lost Diablo last July, when he slipped past the cat sitter while her family was on vacation. COURTESY DARCY MCCURDY

Cat con preys on emotional loss

FRAUD

Scammer couldn't keep his story straight



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

An online ad for a lost cat only turned up false joy and bitter disappointment for Calgarian Darcy McCurdy, who was almost scammed out of a few hundred dollars in the process.

McCurdy received a call from a man named Scott, who said he found her cat Diablo, who has been missing since July.

Scott said he actually discovered the cat last year but only recently discovered the

microchip and tattoo behind his ear during a visit to the vet. Scott said his children had grown attached to the cat, and requested \$500 for its return.

It was then McCurdy's initial excitement turned to scepticism, as she had just updated her Kijiji ad looking for Diablo. The ad mentioned the tattoo, and offered a \$500 reward. But Scott hadn't mentioned the ad yet.

"He wouldn't provide his last name, he wouldn't provide where he found the animal, where he was located and he wouldn't provide a picture of the cat until I had paid," said McCurdy.

She then asked if he had seen the ad, and Scott's story changed.

"He said, 'oh, I was just doing research after I discovered that he was yours. But I'll be generous, I'll do it for \$400.

otherwise I'm going to keep the cat for my kids,'" she recalled.

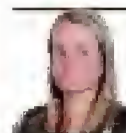
McCurdy continued to grill Scott and it became very clear to her that Scott didn't have Diablo. His story changed to say that he never actually went to the vet, but he called his sister, who worked as a vet, about the tattoo, and she provided McCurdy's information. Either way, the vet would have provided McCurdy's personal information without her consent, she said.

Scott wouldn't accept any cash either, only an e-transfer, at which time he would send his grandmother to a neutral location to give the cat to McCurdy.

McCurdy said she's contacted the police and hopes not only will the scammer be caught, but also that someone out there might find her lost Diablo.

CALGARY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Twitter engagement attracts only seven users to Q&A



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Calgary parents were invited to ask questions and express concerns through a Calgary Board of Education (CBE) Twitter engagement session.

CBE's Chief Financial Officer, Brad Grundy fielded questions from approximately seven parents during the one-hour session and his first ever Twitter

engagement session.

"I'm by no means a Twitter aficionado, but I think it went well," he said.

The main issues brought up included focusing on dollars in the classroom and minimizing administrative costs.

"We get what they're saying," he said. "Nothing was really unique or novel, but rather follow a trend we've been seeing."

Grundy said the Twitter engagement it's on par with what

was expected, considering the five public engagement sessions held by CBE have seen around a total of 100 parents in attendance.

"I hate to draw conclusions with incomplete information but it's either people aren't concerned or they don't think anything will happen if they speak up," he said. "I'd like to believe that for the most part people have confidence in our ability to provide a top quality public education system."

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Mayor Naheed Nenshi checks out what's on offer with children from the Alex Munro School.

JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Book Truck rolls to readers again

EDUCATION

Revived fleet of beloved mobile libraries set to hit four soon



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

The Calgary Public Library finally has wheels again.

After 25 years, it's back. The Calgary Public Library launched its Book Truck, a modern-day bookmobile, on Thursday with much fanfare, giggles and music.

"We're starting to build younger generations of readers who get to use the Book Truck," said Jackie Flowers,

service design lead at the Calgary Public Library.

She's been working on the project from Day 1, a process that took about a year to get rolling.

"It's really great to see them on the road, in community, driving around," she said.

Although the concept isn't new, the in-house expertise and planning for bookmobiles had left. Flowers said they had to go back to square one and track down the best way to update practices to make the Book Truck more efficient and viable.

The truck has 16 regular stops in communities and schools. Since it started operating in late January, the truck has completed about 25 stops. There are currently

+ CHECK IT OUT

For more information, visit: calgarylibrary.ca/booktruck

two vehicles in operation: Within a year, another two will be ready to roll.

"Many Calgarians had fond memories of the bookmobile coming to their neighbourhood before there was a community library there," said Mayor Naheed Nenshi, who attended the launch.

"What we're doing now is taking this Book Truck to communities across the city as the city grows."

Nenshi said Calgary libraries are full to bursting, and as the city grows, people are still after physical books.

"This is a great measure so that we can get to every corner of the city," said Nenshi.

When asked what took so long, he said that for a while the bookmobile was out of fashion. But it's back.



Many Calgarians had fond memories of the bookmobile coming to their neighbourhood.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi

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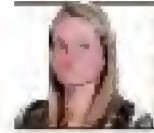


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Calgary's school resource officers

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Team serves as liaisons and educators for city's students



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

What is the role of a school resource officer (SRO)?

"SROs represent the Calgary Police Service's best efforts towards early intervention, working with kids grades K-12. Overall we would see them as an educator, a role model, a peer-mentor and somebody kids can approach if they need some help."

"Being an SRO is being present in the schools and finding an authentic way to connect with teachers, parents and students and be a resource to them—hence the title—and to be receptive to how they can help in the school environment," said team leader, Staff Sgt. Dominic Mayhew.

PHOTOS BY JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO



Const. Marty Martindale

School: Lord Beaverbrook High School grades 10-12

How long have you been a police officer? 12-1/2 years.

What is the best part about being a SRO?

Meeting kids, having the opportunity to guide and mentor them through their high school years.

What is the most challenging?

Dealing with kids who use social media to intimidate or hurt others. The end result has a negative and lasting effect on those who have been bullied by social media.

What was your favourite subject in school?

Social studies. I always enjoyed learning about Canadian/American History and different parts of the world.

What's the best lesson your students have taught you?

Patience.

If I could have one super power what would that be?

The ability to be invisible.



Const. Ron Kubicek

School: St Francis High School and Queen Elizabeth High School

How long have you been a police officer?

I have been with the Calgary Police Service for 20 years.

What is the best part about being a SRO?

I think the best part about being an SRO is the ability to wear multiple hats during my job. I can't think of a better job that allows me to be an educator and police officer all in one when it comes to helping students at our high schools.

What is the most challenging?

I think the most challenging part of being an SRO is trying to be in two places at once.

What was your favourite subject in school?

My favourite subject in the schools is sport performance.

What's the best lesson your students have taught you?

The best lesson students have taught me is understanding and patience.

If I could have one super power what would that be?

If I had one super power I would pick the ability to fly.



Const. Kerri Mattice

School: SE Elementary Schools

How long have you been a police officer? 7-1/2 Years

What is the best part about being an SRO?

The best part of my job is to be involved in the school community. The students are full of energy, ideas and strengths, which help to make our city a better place.

What is the most challenging?

Trying to help a family to get support when you see a situation that isn't healthy and you know of options, which could make a difference. Sometimes parents have negative experiences with police and therefore they may not realize that you want to help.

What was your favourite subject in school?

My favourite subject in school was science and health because I was interested in understanding how and why things work as they do.

What's the best lesson your students have taught you?

They have taught me to see the positive and not to limit my options.

If you could have one super power what would it be? I would want to be able to fly.

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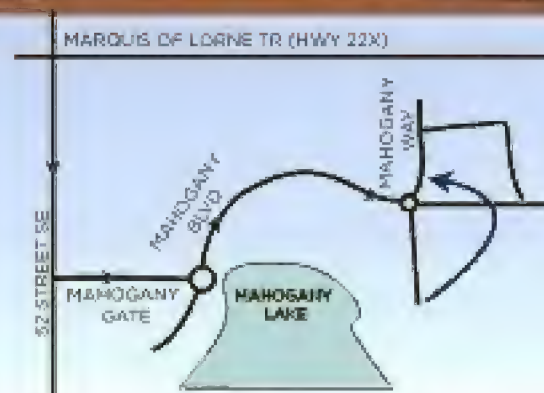
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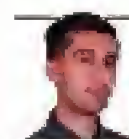
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Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

For 13-year-old Madison Moser, every blister, bandage, pirouette and pas de bourrée over the last 11 years led up to this one moment.

Moser was auditioning for a summer program at the prestigious Royal Winnipeg Ballet.

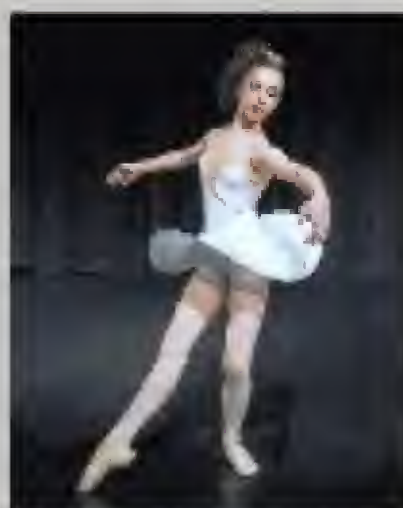
In the dance studio, at the bar, Moser stretched up as two teachers walked around the room watching every part of her body — even though she was just warming up, the judging had already begun.

While focusing on her muscles and position, she was thrown her first curveball.

"I was sitting in the splits on the floor and they asked me if I played any sports," said Moser.

+ ROYAL BALLET

- The ballet was founded in 1939 by Gweneth Lloyd and Betty Farrally and is known as Canada's premiere ballet company and the longest continuously operating ballet company in North America.
- In 1953, the company received a royal title — the first granted under Queen Elizabeth II.
- The ballet company has been mentoring young ballet



JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

professionals since 1971.

"I didn't know if that was a good thing or a bad thing. So I responded honestly."

Moser said she did some running, used to play soccer and currently plays volleyball. She believes they were looking to see what other skills she had, how it would affect her training and what they were looking for in a candidate.

Moser watched other girls perform, and believed they were fantastic, so there was a bit of hesitation on her part when leaving the audition. But, overall, she believed it went well.

"Sometimes I feel there's so much pressure that I'm going to crack," she said. "But, when you press down coal, you make

diamonds."

It paid off.

Moser was accepted into this summer's program.

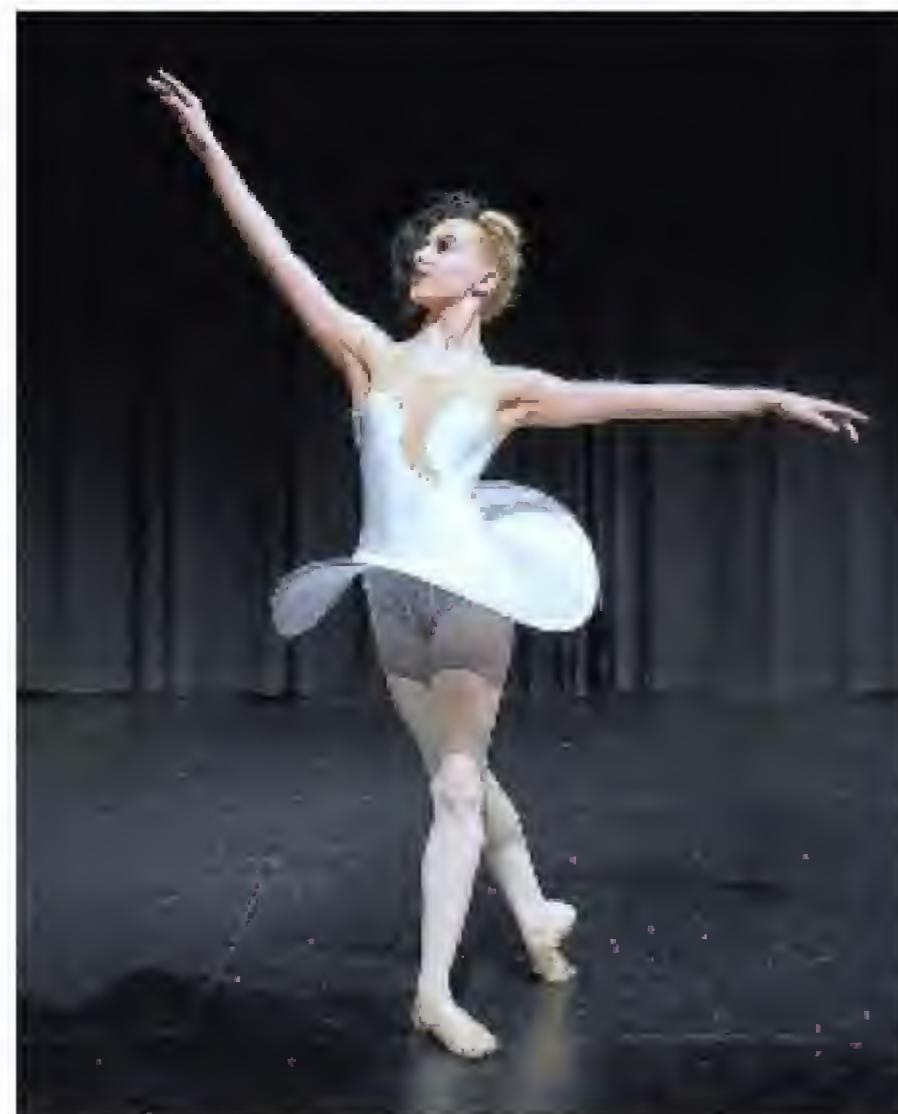
"This provides her a great opportunity to train with probably the best dance teachers in Canada," said her mother, Catherine Moar. "They come from around the world to teach there."

Moar said her daughter originally started ballet at the age of two, because she saw her older cousins wearing tutus and wanted to wear one too. Although Moser has learned hip hop, contemporary and more since then, her love has always been in the ballet.

"If she could dance 24 hours a day, I think that's what she would do," said Moar. "She's been blessed by having a good physical body for it, being a very good athlete."

Moser said she's incredibly excited for the opportunity — and a little nervous.

It's a big step in achieving her ultimate goal of making it into Juilliard Performing Arts School in New York, and then dancing with some of the famous faces she's seen on TV.



Madison Moser said deep breathing, calmness and visualizing success allows her to get through even the most grueling auditions. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

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More than 85 restaurants have signed up this year, including River Café, Divino and Model Milk. Go to calgarydowntown.com

**SATURDAY —
Playing Our City**

A Juno Awards Host Committee event takes place at two Calgary locations. Trained musicians collaborate with Calgarians and play their surroundings, to create a personal, live performance. Performers will play and involve the audience in experimenting with non-traditional music element, like stone, glass and wire.

Shows take place at the Central Library and Genesis Centre at 2 p.m.

Gravity Open House

Director of the Rothney Astrophysical Observatory, Phil Langill, discusses 2,400 years of gravity, from Aristotle to modern research.

The Royal Astronomical Society will talk about the sky, and set up their telescope for public observing. The open house takes place at the Rothney Astrophysical Observatory at 8 p.m.

**SUNDAY —
Boutique Wedding Market**

This event helps brides and grooms bring flair to their nuptials with local initiatives and vendors.

It also showcases upcoming wedding trends and offers workshops and other wedding-related events.

The show takes place in The Savile Room at The Commons from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

AARON CHATHA/METRO



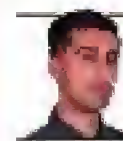
Based out of Vancouver, the Zolas released their latest album *Swooner* on March 4, their first with two new members of the band: Dwight Abell (bass) and Cody Hiles (drums).

COURTESY KIM JUNEJA

Zolas bring new album to our city

SCENE YYC

Van City indie band drops *Swooner*



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Indie rock band The Zolas hit Calgary's Marquee Beer Market and Stage on March 30. The Vancouver-based band just released their new album *Swooner* this month, which vocalist Zach Gray said was the first album they had full artistic control over.

How does *Swooner* and this new degree of control compare with previous projects? We wanted to make a weird, catchy album about life in 2016. I think that what makes this album different is every sound and every word and every decision was something we made.

This is the first record where, once we were finished recording, there was nothing we wished he had done differently.

With *Swooner*, you have two new permanent band additions, Dwight Abell (bass) and Cody Hiles (drums).

How do they complement what you and Tom Dobrzanski have already built?

Since we had these guys working with us on writing the album from the very beginning, we were able to make songs off of rhythms and beats for the first time.

I feel like 20th-century music was really about chords and melody and modern music is more of a focus on rhythm.

What was your experience like working with Carly Rae Jepsen on *LA Hallucinations*?

I'd never written a song with someone at that level before. I'd always had a lot of confidence in the hooks I could write, but this is the first time I got to test whether a song that I wrote could be a hit on a true, Top 40 pop album. It was a nice milestone for me.

How does Calgary treat you when you come through?

We've been wanting to come back to Calgary for so long. We were supposed to play for X-Fest, but it got rained out. We were so bummed out; we didn't get a chance to play in Calgary since.

This is our first show to make up for the rain out. I love playing in Calgary, I feel like we have some catching up to do with our fans here.



I love playing in Calgary, I feel like we have some catching up to do with our fans here. Zach Gray

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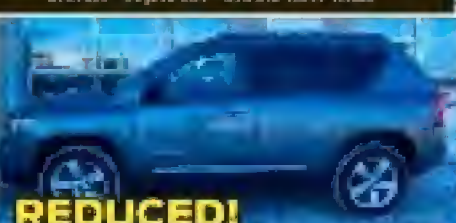
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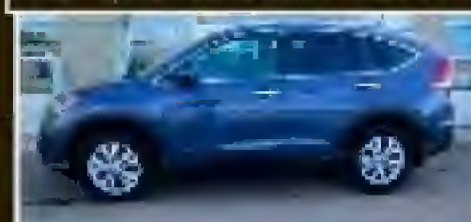
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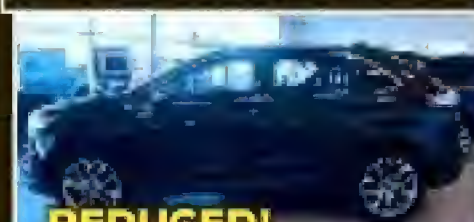
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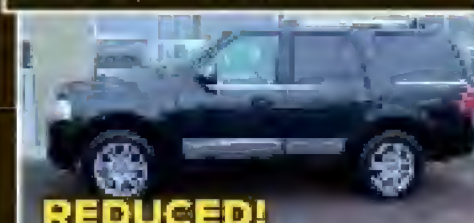
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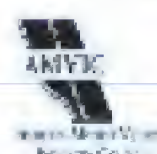


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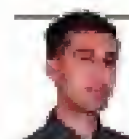
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No rehearsal, no second chance

SCENE YYC

Actors don't get script until the curtain rises in show



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

It really is a once-in-a-lifetime performance.

After an actor performs White Rabbit Red Rabbit for the first time — they can never perform it again. Also, the actor isn't allowed to see the script until he or she is already on stage.

"There's no rehearsal, no director, no set. Nothing," said Chelsey Fawcett, artistic director of Calgary's Square Cat Entertainment.

"It's a really unique opportunity."

The experimental Iranian theatre piece is a one-person show that's currently completing a run in New York with a different actor every night, in-



The one-person play features a different Calgary-based actor every night — and after performing once, the actor can never perform it again. PHOTO CREDIT IN SMALL CAPS

cluding big names like Nathan Lane, Patrick Wilson and Cynthia Nixon.

Writer Nassim Soleimanpour set a few restrictions for the play to ensure each actor made it their own.

Fawcett the play is very different depending on the actor handling the material — it could be anywhere from 60 to 90 minutes, depending on how it's read, and the audience reaction. It can also vary wildly from

an audacious comedy to a tear-jerking drama, again, depending on what choices the actor makes in the moment.

"The script is just a skeleton and everything gets pieced together in the moment, with

the audience," Fawcett explained.

She said she'll be featuring a wide array of local actors to perform the piece in Calgary.

Names include Andrew Phung, an improviser known

“

The script is just a skeleton and everything gets pieced together in the moment.

Chelsey Fawcett,
artistic director

for his antics at Loose Moose Theatre, Barrer Hileman, a Dean of Dramatic Arts at Ambrose University, Jamie Matchullis, a Calgary theatre actor and Jenna Leclaire, who is known for her TV roles.

"If you don't like it one night, that's totally fine. You can come the next night and it will be something completely different," explained Fawcett.

Although details are sparse due to the nature of the play, the theatre company said the play isn't overtly political.

Square Cat is aiming to promote more multicultural theatre, and White Rabbit Red Rabbit is part of their focus on producing more Middle Eastern theatre this season.

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From Bearclaw to White House

STATE VISIT

Trudeau gifts local sculptor's work to Obama



An Alberta sculptor's work received worldwide attention Thursday after Prime Minis-

ter Justin Trudeau gave it to President Barack Obama.

Trudeau gave Obama a sculpture called "Courage," which sculptor Leo Arcand, an artist from the Alexander First Nation just north of Edmonton, completed in December.

Arcand had no idea what was to happen to his sculpture. "I found out this morning," he said. "I got a phone call from Bearclaw Gallery."

The Edmonton gallery,

which sold the piece to the Prime Minister's Office, said it was similarly stunned to see where it turned up.

Gallery assistant Hope Wright said they were in talks with a buyer earlier this year and didn't even know it was headed to Trudeau's office until they settled on the deal.

"That's when it was disclosed that it was for the prime minister's office, but at that time we had no idea it was going

to President Obama," she said.

She said the work cost \$650 and the prime minister's office said they would consider future business if things went well.

"I think things did go well, so hopefully we will see that again," Wright said.

Arcand, a sculptor for 25 years, said he's thrilled that his work has been given to Obama.

"Having a piece go to a world leader, of all the sculptures that are in Canada, to be chosen,

it's a really good thing. It's a good feeling," he said.

"I am happy that it's going to go to a good home."

Arcand said the sculpture is soapstone from British Columbia, with an eagle's head and a human face with a hole in the middle. He said it's meant to represent the spirit, which is ongoing and forever.

"It's a representation of humanity, of courage, honour and love," he said.



"Courage" by local artist Leo Arcand. BEARCLAW GALLERY

TRANSPORT

Eggen happy with transport initiative

Alberta Education Minister, David Eggen, said he's pleased to see the CBE taking initiative after hosting a public engagement session about school transportation Wednesday.

"We saw some bumps in the road last September and they seem to have taken initiative to make sure that doesn't happen again," he said.

He said he's always in discussions with the CBE and is happy they've conducted a review to

see what transport needs are and what that will look like in the new school year.

"I was in Calgary last week and met with the board chair and superintendent once again, so we're looking for ways to make sure we meet the transportation needs of all students across the province," he said.

Eggen hopes 28 new schools opening across the province in the next year will help alleviate stresses. LUCIE EDWARDS/METRO

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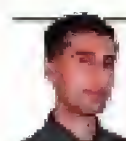


Playwright and actor **Trey Anthony** appears in *Da Kink in My Hair*, one of many offerings during Theatre Calgary's schedule. COURTESY THEATRE CALGARY

Theatre Calgary's season Kinks off

CULTURE

Ghosts, Queen Elizabeth and hair anchor 49th year



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Ghosts, the queen and, most importantly, hair — Theatre Calgary has announced its 49th season, which kicks off with *Da Kink in My Hair*.

"If you know anything about black hair salons, there's a great quote that says, 'You don't know a black woman unless you know their hairs,'" said Shari Wattling, associate artistic director.

Taking place in Toronto, the play follows eight women in a hair salon interacting and sharing personal stories. Wattling said there's music, monologues and a ton of humour — the owner of the salon is clairvoyant, which is how some of the stories are drawn out.

The show has enjoyed success in Toronto, spawned a TV series and is being brought to Western Canada for the first time to kick off the season.

Wattling also said she's excited to bring *The Audience* to Calgary. The play focuses on Queen Elizabeth and her private weekly meetings with various prime ministers, from Winston Churchill to Tony Blair.

It stars award-winning actress Seana McKenna as the Queen. "Seana McKenna is truly one

of the queens of Canadian theatre, and to have her come and play the actual queen is a real thrill," said Wattling.

This year also marks the 30th time *A Christmas Carol* has been included in Theatre Calgary's season. Wattling said the production shows no signs of slowing down — last year it broke attendance records.

Its success is in no small part due to the iconic performance of Stephen Hair as Ebenezer Scrooge, who has played the role for more than 20 years. She said the message of the play, which is about generosity and fellowship, is also especially important now amid the province's difficult economic climate.

For a full rundown of the season, visit theatrecalgary.com.

metro



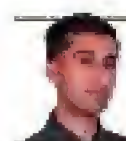
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Panther-bat fights crime and stigma

CEREBRAL PALSY

Comic book writer draws on childhood to create hero



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

As a child, Calgary writer Kyle Durack was bullied due to the cerebral palsy affecting his legs.

As an adult, he's channelling those experiences into a four-armed black panther-bat monster who fights crime.

Rage is a comic book superhero who transforms into a variety of monstrous animal amalgamations to face off against supervillains. But beyond the super-crime, Durack said the core of the character came from a very personal place.

"Part of dealing with his anger was going into his own little world and creating these monsters by sketching them out in his book," described Durack. "That was me. I created my own little monsters when I wanted to escape. I sat down and drew them out. Then I decided, I could turn this into a superhero story."

Cerebral Palsy affects body movement, muscle control, posture and balance. Durack said although his mostly affects his legs, it also affects his fine motor functions, making writing and typing a challenge.

"I use a voice program for



Kyle Durack said he was bullied about his cerebral palsy as a child, but has channelled those experiences into a transforming superhero. AARON CHATHA/METRO

writing," he said. "I talk to my computer and it writes for me."

His neighbour Chengis Javeri draws the comic for him.

It follows a man named Mitchell who finds a magical stone which gives him the power to change shape. One is a combination of a bull with cheetah legs and octopus tentacles that retract into a crab shell on his back. Another combines aquatic animals like the dolphin and alligator, and shoots acid. The creatures are inspired from Egyptian and Greek mythology.

As a superhero, he faces off against villains like Professor Wiloh, who found a way to hack into the military's tanks and jets using technology he originally sold to the government. He also builds his own robots.

Mostly though, he hopes people who have experienced bullying, in any form, will find a way to relate to the character.

Durack has recently released the second Rage book, which is available digitally on the Amazon store under Rage II Shadows of Jekoras.

CALGARY DEALERSHIP CLEARING OUT ALL USED VEHICLE INVENTORY UP TO 50% OFF!!!

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Carl Holst, Sales Manager at Stampede Toyota, just announced plans to hold a Used Vehicle Spring Clear Out Sale with savings up to 50% off every Used Vehicle in stock Taking Place tomorrow, March 12, 2016.

According to Mr. Holst, increased sales from the last few months have resulted in an overstock of trade-ins. "In the last three months our sales have increased at a higher than expected rate", Holst said. "Now, we have too many cars and trucks on our used lot and must reduce this to a more manageable number."

During this Used Vehicle Clear Out Sale every used car and truck will be sold with discounts from 10% up to 50% off the original asking price. Our customers will find these prices thousands of dollars lower than our competition and even lower than the auctions." Mr. Holst Said. Auction bidding often inflates the true value of a car so you pay more. Here every car and truck is on sale up to 50% off, first come first served and no bidding.

It's the perfect opportunity to get a good quality used car

at the lowest price in the city. All cars are on display at Stampede Toyota on Barlow Trail, 2 blocks north of the Trans Canada Highway. This Sale is one day only, doors opening at 8:30 am. Those who arrive early will get the best selection.

Prices will be posted on the windshields and customers will be given the opportunity to purchase the vehicle

One of Calgary's largest import dealers is overstocked and is forced to sell used cars and trucks for as low as 50% OFF Tomorrow March 12, 2016, during a one-day sale event.

at these amazingly reduced sale prices. This unheard of approach to selling used vehicles will make it easy and quick for anybody in the market for a good used vehicle to get a great car or truck at a very low price with no hassle or the need for endless haggling.

"Wholesale buyers will be represented to take trade-ins during the sale," Mr. Holst said.

"We also have four business managers who will help buyers arrange affordable financing options."

We've got over \$10 Million Dollars in inventory to choose from. Our total inventory will be close to 400 new and used cars and trucks to choose from. We want to remind everyone again that this is a oneday sale only. When their inventory has been reduced, they will remove the sale prices and return to normal operations.

"Since we are a local business we would like to give back to the community we are in," Mr. Holst said. "We would rather allow local people to buy these overstocked vehicles than have to wholesale them at an auction."

All cars will be clearly marked with discounts from 10% up to 50% for the entire day. Be sure to get down there early for best selection and take advantage of this opportunity to get the vehicle you have been waiting for, at the price you have been waiting for.

Due to the volume of sales during this event, please no telephone inquiries.

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POLITICS

Justin's appeal a benefit to coalitions

Matt Laforge
Metro | Toronto

If you're the kind of Canadian who believes ardently in the Trudeau government and the policy agenda it represents then your hopes for the aftermath of the Obama love-in are sky high. You want to believe that the prime minister's international celebrity is built to last; that all of this really does mean that "Canada is back."

And if you're not that kind of Canadian, you still have to acknowledge that all this means something.

First, the fact that the most influential left-of-centre entity in all of western democracy, the Democratic party, has attached itself to Trudeauism means that the party sees the prime minister as capable of uniting coalitions and punching above the weight of his small country.

And that, in turn, means that the job of being Trudeau's political opponent here at home just got a lot more complicated, if not a lot more difficult. If taking the Liberal government to task on ISIL or on the budget was already coming at the cost of looking like the last person to get with the times and enjoy the party, now doing so also amounts to a repudiation of a U.S. president who may be a lame duck but who is still very popular in Canada and whose ally and heir-apparent, Hillary Clinton, is still the favourite to become the next president.

That doesn't make Trudeau bulletproof, but it does make our politics more internationally consequential.

'About time, eh?': Obama

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

U.S. delights in first official visit by a PM in nearly 20 years

A warm moment in Canada-U.S. relations unfolded on the White House lawn Thursday — one marked by big fanfare and a plan to see U.S. President Barack Obama address Canada's Parliament before he leaves office.

The day began with an elaborate bit of bilateral cinematography: a military brass band, a cannon salute and hundreds of flag-waving onlookers greeting Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, in town for the first state dinner involving a Canadian in 19 years.

The leaders greeted members of the crowd, many of them clutching miniature Canadian

and U.S. flags, along the rope line while their wives chatted nearby.

At a separate event, Michelle Obama introduced her counterpart Sophie Gregoire-Trudeau as her "soulmate." Gregoire-Trudeau returned the favour as the two were walking away: Obama tripped on a heel and Sophie helped break her fall.

"We are very proud to welcome the first official visit by a Canadian prime minister in nearly 20 years. About time, eh?" Obama said.

"We have a common outlook on the world, and I have to say I have never seen so many Americans excited about the visit of a Canadian prime minister."

Indeed, the two leaders went out of their way to project amity: Trudeau described the president

as "My friend" and "Barack." Obama said people were inspired by his message of hope and change.

They agreed to move forward with a customs pre-clearance experiment that could revolutionize the way Canadians and Americans enter each other's country. It would apply the model used

at some airports to other modes of transportation, allowing travellers to clear customs at train stations in Montreal and Vancouver as part of a pilot project. And they expressed optimism that a compromise could soon stave off a new round in the ongoing softwood lumber war.

The biggest news out of the event that American media will certainly seize on was the

president's extended riff on the rise of Donald Trump.

American reporters had been trying to draw Trudeau into commenting on the U.S. election and he avoided getting involved.

Obama showed no such compunction, ridiculing Republicans while also echoing Trudeau's message from the night before: that the solution to the challenges of globalization is openness, not isolation — a jab at the election talk of expelling Mexican migrants, banning Muslim travel and ripping up trade deals.

Later, the Trudeaus were greeted by the Obamas when they arrived for Thursday night's state dinner. Obama gave a witty toast to Trudeau, making use of the prime minister's resume.

"We intend to have fun tonight. But not too much fun ... the prime minister used to be a bouncer," Obama said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau was welcomed to the White House on Thursday by President Barack Obama.

1 The Obamas and Trudeaus pose for a photo at the North Portico of the White House as they arrive for a State Dinner.

AFP/GETTY IMAGES

2 Trudeau and Obama stand for the playing of national anthems during an arrival ceremony on the South Lawn of the White House.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

3 Later, the duo held a bilateral meeting in the Oval Office.

GETTY IMAGES

“

From my perspective, what's not to like?

Barack Obama on Trudeau

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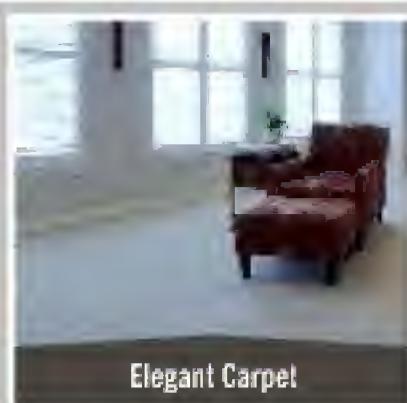
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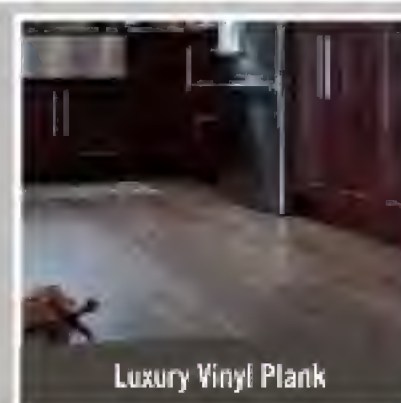


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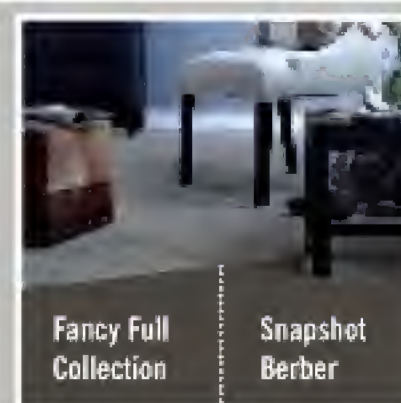


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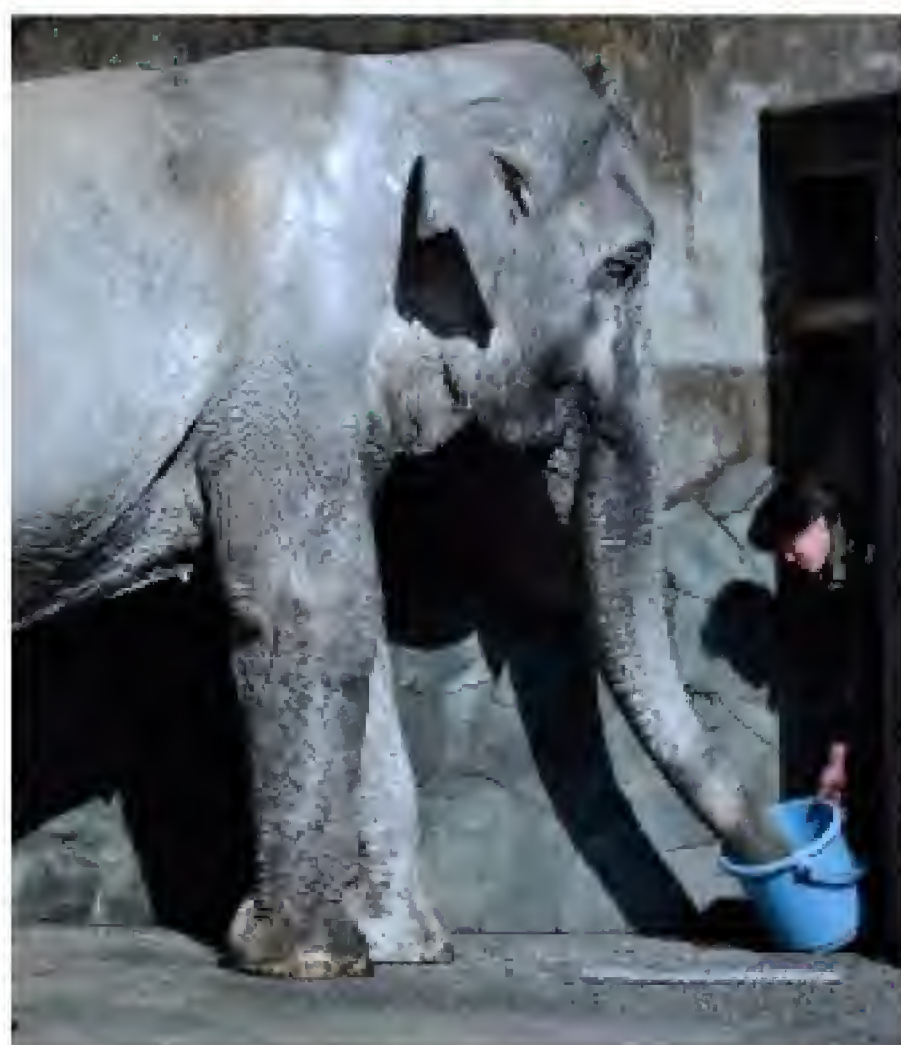
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A zoo attendant feeds Hanako the elephant at Inokashira Park Zoo on the outskirts of Tokyo in January 2016. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Habitat set for upgrade from zoo

JAPAN

Facility says it will improve living space for elephant, 69

For 40 minutes each day at a zoo in Tokyo, Japan's oldest elephant transforms from a bored, zombie-like state to flapping her ears and making huffing sounds, says a Vancouver woman who led a global campaign to improve the animal's welfare.

Hanako becomes animated when her keepers visit the 69-year-old elephant to feed her by hand, brush her with a rake and clean her feet.

"Those were sounds of great pleasure she was emitting. It was anticipatory. She was excited," said Ulara Nakagawa, 35, in an interview from Tokyo.

"At first we thought it was the food, but it turns out it was the time she gets to spend with the keepers. She loves them."

Nakagawa spearheaded a review of the elephant's treatment at the Inokashira Park Zoo after an online petition was inspired

by a blog post she wrote describing Hanako's "concrete prison." More than 400,000 signatures were collected and \$29,000 US crowdfunded for the expert to join her in Japan.

Many online supporters were hopeful the zoo would agree to relocate Hanako to a sanctuary in Thailand.

But elephant behaviour consultant Carol Buckley determined the zoo has taken good care of Hanako and a move would prove far too risky for her health.

"Knowing what I know now, I know it would just destroy her," Nakagawa said.

The campaign will continue fundraising to help the zoo make habitat improvements, Nakagawa said, who will monitor its progress. There are many more elephants worldwide that should not be kept in captivity, she said.

"That's the lesson," Nakagawa said. "We don't want animals to have to get to this stage where they have to essentially cope to survive. They should be flourishing with their families. What she experiences 40 minutes a day she should be living her entire life." THE CANADIAN PRESS

HOMELESSNESS POLICY

Men say they received 1-way bus trips out of Sask.

Jason Stennes says he knows what it's like to be down on his luck with nowhere to turn, so he wants to offer jobs to a pair of homeless men who say they were given one-way bus tickets to B.C. from Saskatchewan.

"We've got to take care of each other ... and if I'm able to help out I will," Stennes, a 43-year-old high school dropout who is now owner and CEO of 360 Cranes Services, said Thursday.

"I've been offered chances in my life and I just feel it's import-

ant to pass it on."

Charles Neil-Curly, 23, and Jeremy Roy, 21, had been living at a homeless shelter in North Battleford, Sask., but Neil-Curly said a funding cut meant he had to find somewhere else to go.

Neil-Curly said he asked for a ticket to B.C. and was later on a bus with Roy, his friend from the shelter.

Workers from a local shelter were on hand to welcome them at the Vancouver bus station when they arrived Wednesday.

Saskatchewan's Social Services Minister Donna Harpauer said Thursday the province would look into revising its policies around sending homeless people out of province if the Saskatchewan Party is re-elected next month.

B.C. Housing Minister Rich Coleman said the two men were welcome in the province and would be taken care of.

"This is about people in need," he told reporters in Victoria.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ OUTREACH

Jeremy Hunka from the Union Gospel Mission said Thursday the men were in "good spirits" after staying overnight at the shelter and that the next step was to connect the two with caseworkers to develop a care plan.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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“Those were sounds of great pleasure she was emitting. It was anticipatory. She was excited.”
Ulara Nakagawa



A Syrian father and two of his children get warm by a fire between train tracks at the Greek-Macedonian border near the Greek village of Idomeni Thursday after the primary trail to western Europe was sealed off. AFP/GETTY IMAGES



Conditions in the camp on the Greek-Macedonian border deteriorated after heavy rains. VISAR KRYEZIU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Running out of open routes

EUROPE

Migrants left in muddy squalor as trails to west are closed off

Desperate migrants and refugees piled up Thursday in fetid fields of mud at a closed border crossing as officials warned that a well-trodden route to Europe used by hundreds of thousands in the past year was no longer available.

With the closure of the migrant trail through the Balkans

from Greece to more prosperous countries, concern also mounted that people desperate for sanctuary or jobs in Europe are already turning to smugglers to find other pathways.

Government ministers and experts say that Albania, Hungary, Bulgaria and Romania could become alternate tracks, and officials in Spain are in contact with Algeria and Morocco to try to stop new routes from opening there.

At the same time, the flow continued to the Greek islands by boat from Turkey, either by those who have not heard the Greece-Macedonia cross-

ings are no longer open, or by others who hope the closure is temporary.

Some didn't make it. Turkey's state-run Anadolu news agency said five people, including a 3-month-old, drowned when their speedboat sank Thursday off Turkey's western coast en route to the Greek island of Lesbos. Nine people were rescued from the boat, which was carrying Afghans and Iranians, the agency said.

Nearly 42,000 people are stranded in Greece, including 14,000 camped in the mud near the Idomeni crossing with Macedonia. Nearly three days

1 million

Number of people that have come to Europe in the past year, most by boat from Turkey to Greece, fleeing war, persecution or abysmal poverty.

of rain finally ended, but that did little to lift the misery for those staying in donated pup tents in nearby fields and along railway tracks.

Long lines formed for sandwiches, tea and soup at the

Idomeni camp, which long ago surpassed its capacity. Others warmed themselves at fires using what dry wood they could find, or they poured oil on sodden logs to get them to burn.

The fields have grown increasingly fetid, with pools of water and deep mud that sucks the shoes off children. People dragged their muddy tents to new locations, looking for a dry patch of ground.

Some people gave up and boarded buses for refugee camps in and around Athens.

"May God take his revenge on them - everyone who did

this to us - from whatever country they come from," said Raife al-Baltaji, a Syrian from near Aleppo, as she waited for a bus with her family. "May god take his vengeance out on them. Isn't it sinful? Are we animals? Or are we human beings?"

She said she had been living in Syria for four years under the shelling, but travelled to Turkey, then to the Greek island of Lesbos, where she took a ferry to the mainland and on to Idomeni.

"Under this rain, in the cold. Who wants to protect us?" she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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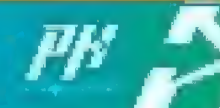
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'Republicans reap what they sowed'

UNITED STATES

GOP 'crackup' down to years of rhetoric, insists Obama

Years of Republican hardline politics and divisive rhetoric have spawned Donald Trump and the "crackup" of the GOP, U.S. President Barack Obama

said Thursday, scoffing at the notion that his actions or policies were to blame for the charged political climate.

At a Rose Garden conference, Obama laid the responsibility on Republican leaders, who tolerated "maximalist," uncompromising politics and created an environment where "somebody like Donald Trump can thrive."

Obama appeared primed to get his thoughts off his chest, noting he's repeatedly been

asked whether he accepts blame for the climate. He finds that idea "novel," he said.

"What I'm not going to do is to validate some notion that the Republican crackup that's been taking place is a consequence of actions that I've taken," he said. "I don't think I was the one to prompt questions about my birth certificate, for example. I don't remember saying, 'Hey, why don't you ask me about that?'"

The president argued that Trump, the billionaire front-runner for the GOP nomination, is not an outlier. He said Trump's policies, particularly on immigration, are not so different from proposals of rivals Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz.

As Obama spoke, GOP candidates were preparing for Thursday's debate in Miami and high-stakes elections in Florida and Ohio next Tuesday.



U.S. President Barack Obama. AP/GETTY IMAGES

SLUOLINE

Mother shot by son was a gun advocate

A northeast Florida woman whose four-year-old son accidentally shot her in the back while they were travelling in her pickup is apparently a gun lover who made numerous social media posts about gun rights.

A community Facebook page listed under Jamie Gilt for Gun Sense was filled with posts advocating for gun rights. One quote says "My right to protect my child with my gun trumps your fear of my gun."

The Associated Press was unable to verify whether the page, which has since been taken down, belonged to Gilt. A person who answered the phone at her house on Thursday morning declined to comment.

Putnam County Sheriff's investigators were trying to determine how the boy got his hands on the gun they say he used to shoot his mother.

Jamie Gilt, 31, of Jacksonville owns the .45-calibre gun the boy fired on Tuesday afternoon. Putnam County Sheriff's Office spokesman Joseph Wells said.

Wells said a deputy saw her behaving frantically inside the truck, which was stopped partially in the road. The deputy then saw she'd been shot in the back and the bullet had exited from her stomach area.

Gilt told deputies her son had accidentally shot her. She was taken to a hospital and was in stable condition, but investigators had not been able to interview her, Wells said.

Before it was removed from public view, the "Jamie Gilt for Gun Sense" Facebook page featured many posts from other pages supporting gun ownership and vilifying proposals for more gun control.

In comments posted March 7 to one post on the page, a user named Jamie Gilt wrote: "I can promise though, if someone breaks into my house, or tries to harm me or my family pretty anywhere, they will be shot and most likely killed. It's my right to protect my life." The same user later replied to another comment about teaching children to shoot: "All of ours know how to shoot too. Even my 4 year old gets jacked up to target shoot with the .22."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Even my 4 year old gets jacked up to target shoot.

Facebook comments made by user Jamie Gilt

IN BRIEF

Snickers go up in smoke in Palestine after recall

Fifteen tonnes of Snickers bars have met a sticky end in Gaza. Hamas authorities hurled boxes of the peanut chocolate candy bar into a bomb crater Thursday, dousing them with diesel and lighting them in a crackling bonfire following a company recall.

Mars recalled sweets from its Netherlands factory last month after "a small piece of red plastic" was found in a Snickers bar. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. military employees contract Zika virus

The top U.S. military commander for South America says two U.S. military members were diagnosed with the Zika virus, but have recovered and are back on duty.

Navy Adm. Kurt Tidd, head of U.S. Southern Command, said one man was in Brazil and the other in Colombia. One woman who is pregnant was transferred out of the region as a precaution. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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30 Weekend, March 11-13, 2016

Business metro NEWS

Meat – animals not required

FOOD

Henless eggs, cowless milk, pigless pork in five years

The future of food may be the stuff of dreams for those vegans and vegetarians secretly pining for a bacon cheeseburger washed down with a creamy milkshake.

Science is poised to alleviate the guilt associated with such feasts by changing how meat, milk and other animal products arrive on dinner plates, with some companies aiming to almost eliminate the need for hens, cows and other animals in the food-supply chain.

Henless egg whites, cowless milk and practically pigless meat are projected to appear in grocery stores as early as five years from now via cultured food, in an effort to reduce factory farming.

"Animal culture right now is extremely detrimental to animals, human health and the environment," said Isha Datar, CEO of New Harvest, a



Professor Mark Post of Maastricht University in the Netherlands unveils a burger made from cultured beef. By changing how animal products arrive on dinner plates, companies are aiming to eliminate the need for hens, cows and other animals in the food-supply chain. GETTY IMAGES

non-profit U.S. research organization that's funding this type of innovation.

Animals often suffer in factory farm conditions, humans can be exposed to viral outbreaks like swine flu from farm

animals and an abundance of land and water is required to produce a comparatively small amount of meat, the company points out in a takedown of the farming status quo on its website.

"We need to start thinking about ways in which we can decrease our dependency on it," Datar said.

The solution as New Harvest sees it? Cellular agriculture or, more simply put: harvesting the

+ CULTURED FOOD

Beef hamburger

One group of researchers made a cultured beef hamburger by extracting muscle tissue from a cow. That hamburger cost \$475,000 to create. One piece of muscle tissue can create more than one trillion strands of replica muscle tissue. Those are layered to create beef.

Egg white

Clara Foods is attempting to create a hen-free egg white that CEO Arturo Elizondo says has lots of protein with virtually no fat, cholesterol or carbs.

animal products many humans drool over from cell cultures rather than whole animals.

Some, like milk, can be made using microbes, like yeast or bacteria — no animals required. Others, like beef, can be grown using living or previously living cells from animals.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Facebook case in top court

The Supreme Court of Canada has agreed to hear an appeal in a case which pits a British Columbia woman against social media giant Facebook.

Deborah Louise Donez sought to file a class action against Facebook over its so-called sponsored stories.

When a Facebook member presses the "Like" button on a post associated with an entity that has purchased the sponsored stories service, an ad with the member's name and portrait was sometimes displayed on the newsfeeds of that member's friends.

Donez called that a violation of the Privacy Act because she was not notified about the ad.

The B.C. Supreme Court approved the suit, but the provincial Court of Appeal stayed the case because Facebook's terms of use specify that any such actions must be heard in California, where it has its headquarters. As usual, the Supreme Court gave no reasons for agreeing to hear the appeal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RRSP CONTRIBUTIONS

Blowing tax refund not good idea: Expert

You might be feeling pretty good about that contribution to the RRSP account and may be daydreaming a little about how you're going to spend the tax refund. But investment experts say people should think twice before blowing that cheque from the government on a new

television or a quick weekend getaway.

Larry Moser, divisional manager for BMO Investorline, said people need a strategy for the money, whether it is investing it or paying down debt.

When making an RRSP contribution, people aren't avoid-

ing tax on their contributions, they're only delaying it. The advantage comes from the tax sheltered growth and it is likely people will be in a lower tax bracket in retirement when they withdraw the money than when they earned it.

However, advisers say people

need to remember that they will pay tax on the money when it is withdrawn. That means \$100 in an RRSP does not necessarily mean \$100 in your pocket when you take the money out of the account in retirement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

market minute

DOLLAR	74.93¢ (-0.54¢)
TSX	13,379.14 (-13.76)
OIL	\$37.84 US (-45¢)
GOLD	\$1,272.80 US (-\$15.40)

NATURAL GAS: \$1.758 US (+3.6¢)
DOW JONES: 16,995.13 (-5.23)

RECALL

Glass bits found in Delissio frozen pizzas

Two batches of Delissio's frozen pizza are being recalled because they may contain bits of glass. Nestle says the glass may be from spinach that was a common ingredient.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Alberta's
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NOT SO FRESH
The oldest pine fossil ever found — from 140 million years ago, when dinosaurs dominated — has been dug up in a Nova Scotia quarry.

DECODED Global health convergence

CAN SCIENCE SAVE 10 MILLION LIVES?

Climb into your time machine. Step out in 2035. Picture this: The major causes of preventable death among the world's poor have been knocked down by 90 to 95 per cent. A group of experts has published a plan to do exactly that in a collection of papers out this month from the Public Library of Science. The cost? **\$70 billion** per year. The return? A little more than **10 million lives** saved annually. That's assuming, with the world's largest dose of elbow grease, the best health successes of the recent past can be repeated everywhere. It's the longest of long shots. **Here's how it could be done.**

CARE FOR MOMS & KIDS

Giving birth is dangerous business. Being a newborn is even riskier. If every new and expectant mother and every child under five had access to adequate medical care by 2035, **7.5 million** lives could be saved per year.

WHAT IT WILL TAKE

Child mortality is way down, but a major scaling-up of basic lifesaving tools is still needed. Every kid needs their essential vaccines, access to re-hydration treatment for diarrhea — a huge killer — and bed nets if malaria is a risk. Women need reliable family planning and a skilled doctor or midwife with them when they give birth.

"(There are) no quick fixes. Lowering maternal and newborn mortality ... requires a functioning health-care system."
— Ann Montgomery, Canadian midwife practicing in the Democratic Republic of Congo

TAP INTO TECH

Researchers found, crucially, that an enormous investment in current tools and technologies would achieve **two-thirds of the improvement** needed to reach the goal of saving 10 million lives yearly by 2035. Beyond that is where the dreaming comes in.

WHAT IT WILL TAKE

The highlights of the global-health wish list: Excellent vaccines for TB and HIV; a one-pill cure for malaria; rapid, simple tests for deadly pregnancy complications. Currently, just one to three per cent of health research money is devoted to the five biggest killers of poor people. That will have to change.

CONTROL INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Humanity's greatest enemies are also its tiniest: HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and neglected tropical diseases. With a massive treatment and prevention effort, by 2035, **1.8 million** adult deaths from HIV/AIDS and **970,000** from TB could be prevented every year.

WHAT IT WILL TAKE

Get antiretroviral drugs to people with HIV/AIDS who need them, diagnose TB early and improve access to antibiotics and educate the public about how diseases spread. Medicate people en masse who live in areas with rampant, treatable tropical diseases like hookworm.

STRENGTHEN HEALTH SYSTEMS

In the words of public-health guru Peter Hotez, "New tools will not deliver themselves." Strong health-care systems are the final piece of the puzzle.

WHAT IT WILL TAKE

This is where an emerging area of research comes in: The science of scaling up and delivering health services. In just one example, this kind of research in Mexico led to a system where mothers were paid cash to come to vaccination, family planning and nutrition clinics. The result was a reduction in the number of kids with stunted growth.

FINDINGS
The week in science

Fertile research

British scientists have learned that many women who suffer recurring miscarriages — a long-time medical mystery — have too few stem cells in the lining of their wombs. (Such cells help rebuild the lining every month into a cushy place for an embryo). A simple fix could help some women: "Scratching" the inside of the womb, with a thin bit of plastic inserted through the cervix, to stimulate healing and cell regeneration.

Thank goo we're here

Are you a simple, single-celled bacterium? Are you algae? No? You have your ancestral protein-kinase-encoding gene to thank. Researchers at the University of British Columbia believe they've identified the gene, shared by all complex living things, that first allowed for the evolution of multicellular life forms — plants, animals, and eventually, us. The gene is a blueprint for molecules called protein kinases, which help cells co-ordinate with one another. It arose because of changes to DNA that happened about a billion years ago in a primordial pool of pond scum.

SOUND SMART

LAMBDA COLD DARK MATTER MODEL

It's the underlying concept that explains this: Out in space, when a small blob of dark matter collides with a mini "dwarf" galaxy, the massive exertion of gravity creates a cataclysm of dust and gas that triggers a starburst — the birth of many stars at once.

PHILOSOPHER CAT
by Jason Logan



Citizen Scientist

Can I starve cancer with a strict diet?

QUESTION
I read that the ketogenic diet fights cancer. A cure in plain sight? — Amit, Vancouver

Dear Amit,

Cancer sucks. I wish there were an all-purpose cure.

Cancer cells use tons of glucose to grow and divide and your body makes glucose from carbs you eat. So it follows the ketogenic diet (KD) — uber-

low-carb, high fat, high protein — could impede cancer. In other words, the process of how it works (the mechanism) is logically plausible.

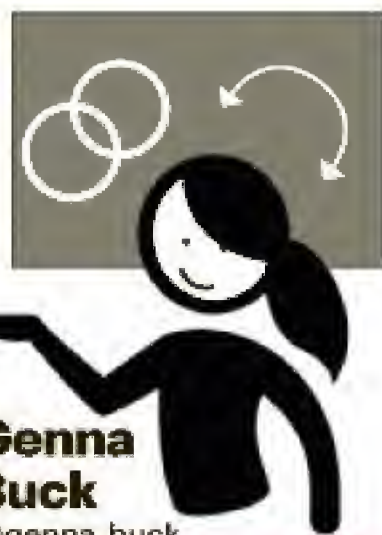
That's what makes it different from something like, say, crystal healing. Even if you feel better after, the fact that someone balanced a quartz on your head or whatever is likely not why: The proposed mechanism (manipulation of energy

currents) is bonkers.

Reviews of the research show KD is associated with increased survival and reduced tumour growth. But nearly all studies looked at cancer in lab mice. Reliable evidence of its efficacy in people doesn't exist yet. So it's definitely not a substitute for cancer treatment.

Though human clinical trials are in the works, I found only a smattering of published

studies. A 2011 paper looked at 16 adults with advanced cancer (too few to draw general conclusions). On KD, six patients had reduced symptoms. Two died. And the rest decided to quit before the three-month study was over. No surprise: Many cancer patients, owing to the "wanting to barf 24/7" thing, can't face food, period, let alone KD's menu of avocados, bacon, olive oil and all.



Genna Buck
@genna_buck



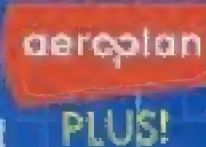
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Mary Elizabeth Winstead plays a young woman trapped in a bunker with a sinister survivalist (played by John Goodman) in *10 Cloverfield Lane*. CONTRIBUTED

Our obsession with doomsday

END OF THE WORLD

10 Cloverfield Lane is the latest film that plays on anxiety

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



Los Angeles is a sun-dappled utopia with a Mediterranean climate, palm trees as far as the eye can see and only 35 days of precipitation annually. It's a sprawling Garden of Eden, with pockets of paradise connected by an interweaving series of freeways. Think year-round sun tans,

flip-flops and driving the convertible with the top down.

So why, when such natural beauty surrounds it, does Hollywood seem obsessed with stories about the end of the world? Could it be it's because they live above the San Andreas Fault, an inner earth rupture that issues occasional rumblings that threaten to drop much of Southern California into the Pacific Ocean? Perhaps it's because it's the home of Kim, Kourtney and Khloé, an alliterative television family who seem to be a harbinger for the dissolution of society.

Whatever the reason, in movie after movie Hollywood hands us terrifying visions of what the world will look like when the Kardashians are done with it.

This weekend *10 Cloverfield*



MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

10 Cloverfield Lane ★★★★★
The Little Prince ★★★★★
Born to be Blue ★★★

HOW RATING WORKS

★★★★★ SEE IT
★★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★★ UP TO YOU
★ SKIP IT

Lane, which producer J.J. Abrams calls a "blood relative" but not a sequel to his 2008 monster flick *Cloverfield*, sees Michelle (Mary Elizabeth Winstead) trapped in an underground bunker with a sinister survivalist played by John Goodman. Outside, he says, an attack is about to leave the world uninhabitable. "Something's coming," he hisses.

What exactly is happening outside the bunker's walls is un-

clear. Whether it's nuclear fallout, an unexpected ice age or a zombie holocaust that brings about the end, the post apocalyptic feel of *10 Cloverfield Lane* is just the latest attempt by the film biz to tap into the world's general feeling of unease.

In 1959 bright and sunny Hollywood offered up a scary story that set the date for the end of the world just after World War III in 1964. In *On the Beach*,

nuclear war has destroyed all life on the planet save for a small enclave in Australia, but even they will succumb once the radiation clouds drift by. As doomsday dramas go this one is particularly depressing—for example people gobble up "suicide pills"—but its Cold War commentary led one writer to label it "the most important film of our time."

Not all end-of-the-world scenarios are as grim as that, however. Seeking a Friend for the End of the World's set up sounds bleak but it's actually amusing and inventive.

Three weeks before a giant asteroid is scheduled to collide with earth, Dodge (Steve Carell) and his flaky downstairs neighbour (Keira Knightley) head out of town, looking for meaning in

a world that soon won't exist. It's a low-key movie that could have been a broad comedy, but instead chooses for a more modest, heartfelt approach.

Sometimes the end of the world is appealing; cute even. *WALL-E*, the story of a lonely, but adorable, robot who inadvertently gives humankind a second chance, is aimed at kids but doesn't look like any other kid's movie you've seen. Don't expect the same old from Pixar. It's ambitious and beautiful like 2001: A Space Odyssey for children.

With such a range of dystopian stories to mine it seems sunny Hollywood just might produce dark visions of our planet until the end of the world comes for real.

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Hollywood shakes up spring



FILM RELEASE

The season of summer blockbusters has been extended

Once upon a time, the space in the calendar between the holidays and the summer was a quieter time for the movie business. That was before hits like *Deadpool* proved that record-breaking smashes can happen on just about any weekend.

Sure enough, Hollywood has loaded up the spring movie season with the closest it gets to sure things. The surest of all is *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*, director Zack Snyder's latest excursion into the DC Universe with Ben Affleck as a newly minted Caped Crusader (much to some fanboys' chagrin).

Of course, the season has room for movies that aren't so reliant on spandex suits and 3D explosions. When it comes to the cooler batch of new releases, expectations are particularly high for *Everybody Wants Some!!*, a bro-comedy that Boyhood maker Richard Linklater describes as the "spiritual sequel" to his 1993 cult fave *Dazed & Confused*.

Then there are the many movies that could go either way. Just how badly do audiences crave a sequel to *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, for instance? Nia Vardalos will soon find out.

MOVIES

Expecting a super box office haul

The clash between Gotham City's caped crusader and the Metropolis man of steel could set sparks flying at the international box office when *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice* comes up for release in March.

As the first big blockbuster of 2016, *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice* should see success in theatres worldwide.

Initial estimates suggest that the Zack Snyder movie could take between \$300M and \$340M globally on its opening weekend (March 23-27, 2016, out March 25 in North America). Such impressive grosses would bag the movie a place among the top 20 most successful opening weekends of all time.

AFP

Sure things for spring

The Divergent Series: Allegiant, March 18

Stars: Shailene Woodley, Theo James, Jeff Daniels

The skinny: Sticking with the new cinematic (or is it economic?) tradition of splitting up the last part of a dystopic YA trilogy into two movies, the science-fiction franchise begins its swansong with the first part (the second follows next June).

Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice, March 25

Stars: Ben Affleck, Henry Cavill, Amy Adams

The skinny: After recasting the DC Comics icon in the grim style of Christopher Nolan's *Batman* in 2013's *Man of Steel*, director Zack Snyder goes yet darker by adding the Dark Knight himself to the cast. Expect big action sequences and many tense conversations in low, growly voices.

The Boss, April 8

Stars: Melissa McCarthy, Kristen Bell

The skinny: Though McCarthy's devotees have to wait until July to see her in the lady-centric *Ghostbusters* reboot, Hollywood's most bankable comedic actress hopefully provides a worthy time-filler with this movie about a brash celebrity businesswoman looking to get back on top after a prison stint for insider trading. McCarthy co-wrote the script with her husband Ben Falcone and their friend Steve Mallory.

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The Huntsman opens April 8. CONTRIBUTED

The Jungle Book, April 8

Stars: Neel Sethi, Lupita Nyong'o, Scarlett Johansson

The skinny: It's probably too much to expect director Jon Favreau to deliver a sharp critique of the problematic colonial subtexts in Rudyard Kipling's original. Then again, young viewers will likely still be enchanted by the latest reboot for Mowgli and Baloo, which mixes live action and CG talking animals.


The Jungle Book opens April 8. CONTRIBUTED

The Huntsman: Winter's War, April 8

Stars: Chris Hemsworth, Charlize Theron

The skinny: Kristen Stewart's Snow White is nowhere to be seen in this prequel to the Brothers Grimm-inspired action-fantasy hit that grossed nearly \$400 million in 2012. It's up to newcomers like Emily Blunt and Jessica Chastain to vie for screentime with the most ubiquitous of Hemsworths.


Midnight Special opens April 1. CONTRIBUTED

Cooler options
Midnight Special, April 1

Stars: Michael Shannon, Adam Driver, Kirsten Dunst

The skinny: Rapturously received at the Berlin festival in February, this defiantly old-school piece of science fiction by Mud director Jeff Nichols has already drawn very flattering comparisons with Close Encounters With the Third Kind and Starman.

Everybody Wants Some!!, April 1

Stars: Blake Jenner, Will Brittain, Tyler Hoechlin

The skinny: No one does odes to misspent youth like Richard

Linklater, which is why the Texan director's latest — a comedy about college baseball players set in the early 1980s — could be his best-loved movie since Dazed and Confused.

Demolition, April 8

Stars: Jake Gyllenhaal, Naomi Watts

The skinny: The latest drama by Dallas Buyers Club and Wild director Jean-Marc Vallée has inevitably lost some heat in the months since its opening-night slot at TIFF 2015. But its fortunes should be buoyed by the raves for Gyllenhaal's performance as a grief-stricken businessman on a journey of self-destruction.

Hardcore Henry, April 8

Stars: Sharlto Copley, Danila Kozlovsky

The skinny: Rendered in the jacked-up style of a first-person videogame, this action flick scored one of TIFF 2015's biggest sales along with the Midnight Madness audience prize. Audiences' appetite for Deadpool's ultraviolence bodes well for its continuing success.

Keanu, April 29

Stars: Keegan-Michael Key, Jordan Peele, Method Man

The skinny: Since the movie-themed sketches on Key & Peele made for some of the show's finest moments, expect a similarly inspired degree of lunacy in the duo's first big-screen effort. Tackling the race issues that are another huge part of their shtick, they play button-down suburban guys who go gangsta to rescue a pet kitten.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MORE RELEASES
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2, March 25

Stars: Nia Vardalos, John Corbett, Andrea Martin

The skinny: Fourteen years after Vardalos spun a one-woman show about cross-cultural nuptials into the highest grossing rom-coms eve, she returns with a very belated follow-up (it's best to forget about the short-lived TV spin-off). Like the original, the new effort boasts plenty of Greek-town Toronto locations — the production was all over the Danforth last summer.


My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2 opens March 25. CONTRIBUTED

Miles Ahead, April 15

Stars: Don Cheadle, Ewan McGregor

The skinny: Part of the season's glut of music biopics, Cheadle's passion-project portrait of jazz great Miles Davis arrives at the same time as the Hank Williams movie I Saw the Light and the controversial Nina (see below). Early reviews were mixed but Cheadle's Miles-worthy wardrobe looks admirably fly.

Elvis & Nixon, April 15

Stars: Kevin Spacey, Michael Shannon

The skinny: Based on Presley's weird but true campaign

to become an undercover drug agent for Nixon, this quasi-historical comedy could be the season's wildest new movie. Really, it's just worth it to savour the sight of Shannon's King-ly sideburns and Spacey as the only real-life politician who could match Frank Underwood's villainy.

Nina, April 22

Stars: Zoe Saldana, David Oyelowo

The skinny: Few could've guessed that the spring

movie season's most controversial film would be this biopic about Nina Simone. The decision to cast Zoe Saldana as the darker-skinned singer has been harshly criticized by Simone's family and others. Images of Saldana in dark makeup and a prosthetic nose have intensified the furor. An agitator as well as an artist, Simone might've appreciated the thorny issues about race and identity that the controversy has exposed.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"A BEAUTIFUL FILM FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY"

Le Journal Metro

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Ethan Hawke, who plays trumpet player Chet Baker in the new biography *Born to Be Blue*, says artists are able to turn suffering into something beautiful and relatable. CONTRIBUTED

'Self-destruction is a real enemy'

BORN TO BE BLUE

Ethan Hawke stars as tragic musician Chet Baker in biopic

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



In *Born to Be Blue*, a stylish new biopic about the turbulent life of My Funny Valentine trumpeter Chet Baker, Miles Davis tells the horn player, "You haven't lived enough" to be a great musician.

When I ask Hawke if great art can be created without life experience, he says, "My take is that there are no rules, but you don't become Nelson Mandela without suffering. There is a huge myth around Mozart that he was just divinely inspired. In

truth, he worked really hard. He was obsessed with music from a very young age.

"You could make the case that Michael Jackson suffered immensely and that is part of what drove him. I think the service of the artistic community is to translate our lives back to us and hopefully to lend some understanding. You need to participate in life and feel life to be able to do that. But you know lots of people suffer without a gift or talent to translate it into a beautiful painting."

Baker took Davis's comment to heart and set off on a lifelong self-destructive bender that saw him fall into drug addiction, even pawning his instruments to support his drug habit.

"In the arts, self-destruction is a real enemy," Hawke says. "If you eliminate self-destruction, if you get out of your own way, give yourself permission to have respect for yourself and treat

yourself like someone that you love, your chances of success quadruple. That's really hard.

"It sounds so simple. The documentary I made [Seymour: An Introduction] is all about how hard that is. The joys of life are actually really simple. We think they are going to be, 'Oh I'll be happy if this, that and the other thing [happen]'. In truth it is pretty awesome that the sun comes up and if you stay focussed on that, things go OK. As soon as you take your eye off that, life gets really weird and tricky."

Hawke shares Baker's rough-hewn good looks and does a convincing job of imitating the fragile beauty of his singing voice. More importantly he apes the addict's temperament. Charming one minute, petulant and or incoherent the next, he plays Baker as a talented train wreck; a man whose tragic life experience fed his art. Unsure

which of his proclivities are his angels and which are his devils, he's a conflicted guy who tries to do well by those around him but often fails. Hawke may resemble the musician but the similarity is only physical. He is comfortable in his skin in a way Baker never dreamed of.

"It's strange, I'm turning 45 this year," he says, "and I have been professionally acting for 30 years. When I was young I was really afraid that I wouldn't get to do it. That was a big part of my identity as a young person. Even if a movie did well, I would think, 'Is it over? Will I ever get to do it again?' It's how I imagine baseball players and professional athletes feel. Do they ever really know when their last game is?"

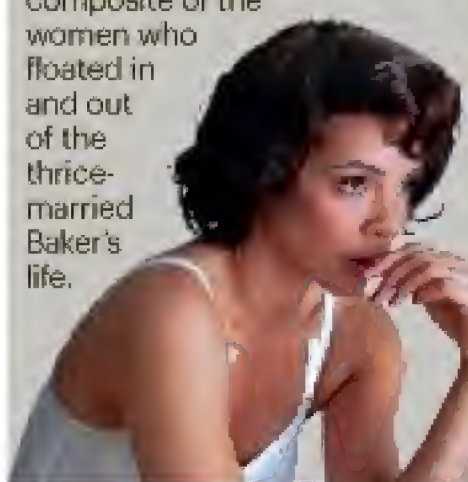
"With acting, I'm working on my *King Lear* now. I'll be able to do this until I am old and no use to people anymore. In athletics, it's not that way."

SUPPORTING ROLE

Playing the patient lover

Carmen Ejogo plays Jane, an actress and love interest who becomes the fulcrum of Baker's recovery, weathering his anger and occasional relapses with impossible patience.

In actual fact, Jane never existed, and is instead a composite of the women who floated in and out of the thrice-married Baker's life.



"There was absolute liberty to do what I wanted on this," said Ejogo, who was more bound to historical accuracy when she portrayed Coretta Scott King in *Selma*.

"He was a bit of a (expletive) when it came to women. I mean, he really was quite abusive and he really expected them to bend to his whims, and I've just heard some crazy horror stories — cornering girlfriends in bathrooms and forcing them to inject. Really horrific, awful stuff, and we don't go that far with this film."

"But I think to reveal the darker side of any mythological legendary heroic type is the most interesting space to explore," she added. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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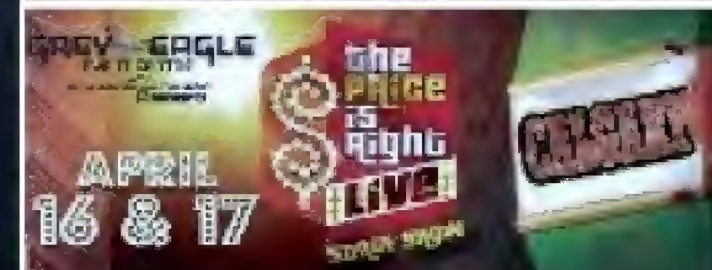


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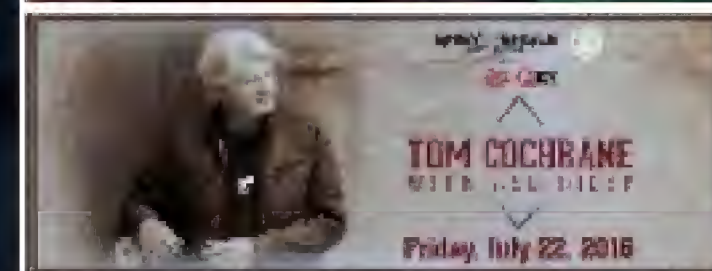
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DRAMA/MYSTERY

10 Cloverfield Lane

Director: Dan Trachtenberg
Starring: Mary Elizabeth Winstead, John Goodman

A young woman wakes up after an accident to find that she's locked in a cellar with a doomsday prepper who insists that he saved her life and the world outside is uninhabitable following an apocalyptic catastrophe.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
 94% 98%



COMEDY

The Brothers Grimsby

Director: Louis Leterrier
Starring: Sacha Baron Cohen, Mark Strong

Nobby, a sweet but dimwitted English football hooligan, reunites with his long-lost brother Sebastian, a deadly MI6 agent, to prevent a massive global terror attack and prove that behind every great spy is an embarrassing sibling.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
 51% 86%



DRAMA

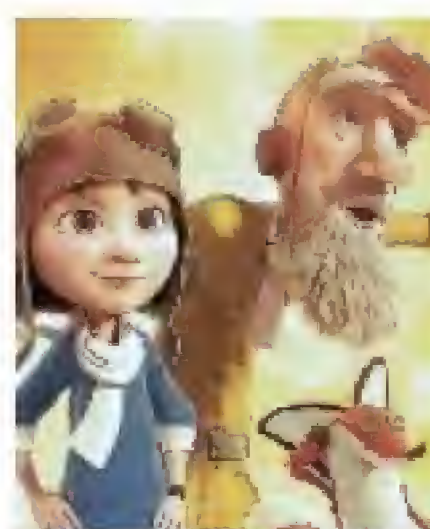
The Young Messiah

Director: Cyrus Nowrasteh
Starring: Adam Greaves-Neal, Sara Lazzaro

The inspiring and unique story of seven-year-old Jesus Christ and his family as they come to a fuller understanding of his divine nature and purpose.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
NOT YET REVIEWED 83%



SCI-FI & FANTASY

The Little Prince

Director: Mark Osborne
Starring: Rachel McAdams, Paul Rudd

Kung-fu Panda director Mark Osborne teams with producers Aton Soumache and Dimitri Rassam for this animated take on Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's beloved novella about a pilot (voice of Jeff Bridges) who crash lands in the Sahara desert.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
 91% 95%



ART HOUSE & INTERNATIONAL

A Perfect Day

Director: Fernando León de Aranoa
Starring: Benicio Del Toro, Tim Robbins

It's just another day on the job for a band of badass war zone rescue workers. The setting is 1995, "somewhere in the Balkans." Over the course of 24 breathless hours, Mambrú (Benicio del Toro), leads his team of humanitarians

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
 65% 49%



ACTION & ADVENTURE

London Has Fallen

Director: Babak Najafi
Starring: Gerard Butler, Aaron Eckhart

The British Prime Minister has passed away under mysterious circumstances. His funeral is a must-attend event for leaders of the western world. What starts out as the most protected event on Earth turns into a deadly plot.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
 26% 64%

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Coming of age when you're nearing 70

INTERVIEW

Sally Field takes on sweet comic indie tale

It sounds like a misprint, but it's not: Sally Field has headlined just one movie in the last two decades.

The reasons why are many. Hollywood doesn't exactly churn out good parts for middle-aged or older actresses, even for beloved two-time Oscar winners. Field has also been drawn elsewhere, back to television, where she got her start in the 1960s on *Gidget* and *The Flying Nun*. And then there's the fact that Field isn't much inclined to play, as she says, "the traditional mother thing."

"I'm certainly at a point in my life where I don't do anything that I don't want to do," Field says. "There are things that come to me, maybe the script is good but you don't really need me in this movie to stand at the door and say, 'Drive carefully.'"

Hello, My Name Is Doris is

a reminder of what the movies have been missing out on. In the film, directed and co-written by Michael Showalter, Field stars as a spinsterish, day-dreaming New York accountant who, after her mother dies, cautiously begins seeking out new experiences and pursuing — comically, awkwardly, sweetly — a much younger man: an art director at her Manhattan office played by Max Greenfield.

The film is a blend of tones — broadly funny, dramatically tender — and populated by veteran performers like Tyne Daly, Stephen Root and Peter Gallagher.

Holding it all together is the ever-plucky Field, outfitted with two pairs of eyeglasses around her neck and a nest of hair, Field's intentionally messy version of a Brigitte Bardot 'do.

Made for only about \$1 million and shot in three weeks, it's an unusually indie project for Field, who jumped at the chance to play Doris.

The hunt for such characters in a male-dominated industry, Field says, has been the story of her career.

"It's always been a struggle. It's not a new struggle to me,"



Sally Field plays a day dreaming New York accountant in *Hello, My Name is Doris*.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

she said in a recent interview. "But certainly as I've gotten older, put it this way, it doesn't get easier."

Field has followed the rising outrage over gender equality in the movie industry with

a mix of optimism and wariness. She's spent years watching women filmmakers fail to land big movies and female-led films be passed over by studios.

"Certainly you can't say that nothing has happened. There

“
She hasn't lost it one bit!
Doris co-writer
Michael Showalter
on Sally Field

has been a lot of movement," says Field. "But it has been SO gradual. I've been here for going on 53 years. It's been so incredibly, incrementally gradual."

In person, Field, aside from looking stunning for a woman

nearing 70, is disarmingly direct. Those who work with her say that straightforward matter-of-factness is how she approaches making a movie, too.

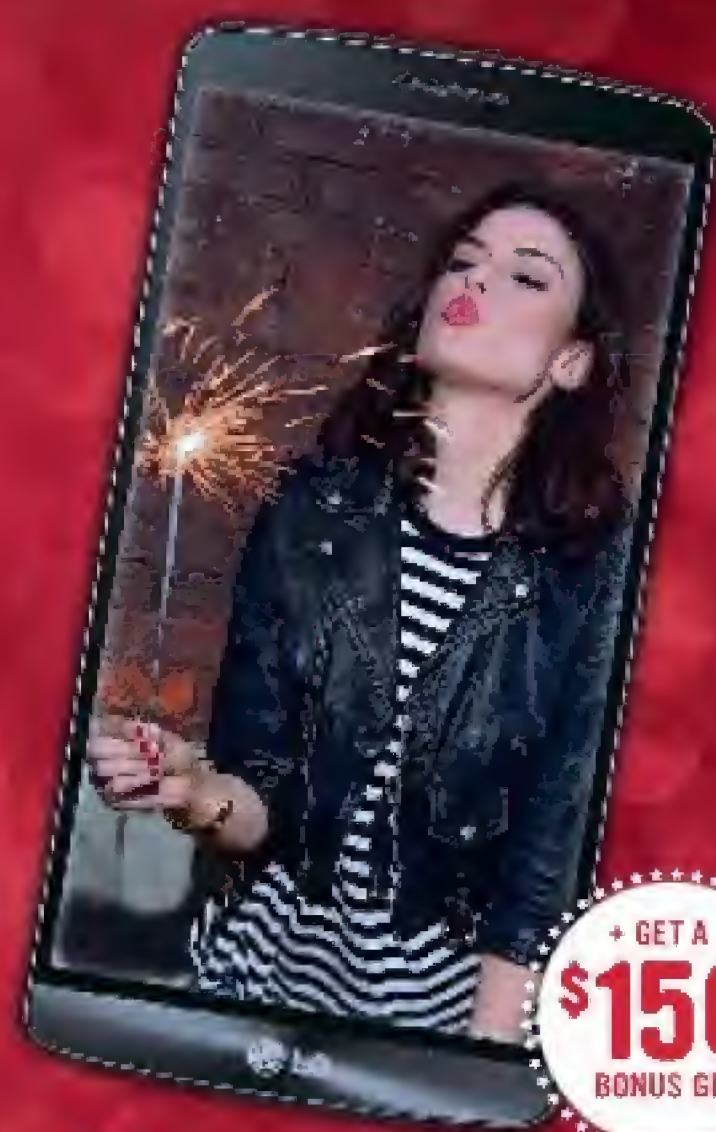
"As soon as you say anything to her that has to do with her status or stature, she'll just say 'Oh shut up!'" says Greenfield. "She doesn't let you treat her that way for more than half a second."

Hello, My Name Is Doris began as an eight-minute short by Laura Terruso, then a film student at New York University. Her teacher, Showalter, thought it was worth developing and the two stretched the story into a feature screenplay.

Showalter, an alum of the sketch comedy troupe *The State*, considered Field the "pie-in-the-sky" casting option, and was flabbergasted when she agreed. Her presence and focus, he says, led the cast and crew to "raise their game to meet her."

"She walked into a situation — a tiny little indie movie with a bunch of young people wet behind the ears — and she came in so funny, so crisp and so brilliant," says Showalter. "She hasn't lost it one bit."

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Damon goes to Great Wall for China

JOINT VENTURE

Tinseltown eyes new market as it stokes Chinese film ambitions

China has a new ally in its campaign to turn itself into a global cultural superpower: Matt Damon. And, behind him, a good chunk of Hollywood as well.

Chinese leaders have long sought international cultural influence, aka "soft power," commensurate with the nation's economic might. That's brought us official Confucian institutes scattered across the world, billions of dollars in development aid and awe-inspiring Olympic ceremonies. But China's own film industry remains a mere flicker on the global screen.

Which is where Damon comes in. Early next year, the star of *The Martian* will headline *The Great*

Wall, a historical epic filmed in China with Chinese and American stars, a famous Chinese director, a cast and crew of roughly 1,300, a \$150-million budget and some nasty monsters. (Not to mention the support of the Chinese government.) If all goes according to plan, the film could be China's first international blockbuster — one that might presage a wave of similar films intended to present a new face of China to the world.

\$3.5B

One Chinese company snapped up an entire Hollywood studio, Legendary Entertainment, for \$3.5 billion. Legendary just happens to be the studio behind *The Great Wall*.

That's a lot to expect from a decidedly unusual action flick. In *The Great Wall*, Damon plays a wandering European mercenary in the pre-gunpowder era who stumbles across the titular structure and learns what it's really for. (Hint: Those monsters might be involved.)

But film-industry types on both sides of the Pacific believe this kind of joint venture could open huge new opportunities for all sides. For Hollywood, it's about expanding markets and



The *Great Wall* star Matt Damon, left, with Chinese director Zhang Yimou. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

investment; for the Chinese government and private companies alike, it's about harnessing American stars and storytelling to help movies based on Chinese history, myths and cultural icons break out onto a global stage.

Chinese authorities "have not made any secret of their desire to spread and to encourage and to

develop soft power," says Rance Pow, president of Artisan Gateway, a Shanghai-based research firm that tracks the Chinese box office. Regaling the world with made-in-China blockbusters, he says, is one way to do so.

The biggest draw for Tinseltown is China's huge and expanding film market. Cinema

attendance in the U.S. and Canada has been flat for a decade, but Chinese moviegoers are on a tear, snapping up tickets worth \$6.8 billion in 2015, up nearly 50 per cent from a year earlier. At that pace, China could eclipse the U.S. as the world's largest film market as early as next year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CULTURE CLASH

Box office vs. core values

The Western appetite for China-centric films remains uncertain. Consider *The Flowers of War*, a 2011 film about the Japanese army's vicious 1937 sack of Nanjing. Despite star Christian Bale and a \$94-million budget, the movie pulled in less than \$500,000 in the U.S., according to Box Office Mojo.

The brutality portrayed in the film turned off foreign audiences as a "kind of propaganda," says Peter Li, managing director of CMC Capital Partners, a unit of China Media Capital.

Foreign co-productions could suffer a similar fate if they grow too heavy handed in an attempt to satisfy Chinese censors, who oversee all films released domestically. "If you promote socialist core values, you're not going to succeed overseas," says Stan Rosen, a University of Southern California political scientist.

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NEWSPAPER BUSINESS

Plagiarism scandal hits crossword editor

The long-time editor of a syndicated crossword published in major newspapers across North America, including the Toronto Star, has been placed on leave amidst allegations of plagiarism.

A database analysis found that 65 crosswords published by USA Today and the syndicated Universal Crossword, edited by Timothy Parker, used identical content from 65 puzzles previously published in the New York Times — including themes and

answers — as well as similar clues and grids.

The same analysis, by U.S. software engineer Saul Pwanson, also found that hundreds of other crosswords edited by Parker had very similar content to puzzles previously published by the media company but with only minor changes, reprinted using fake author names.

Parent company Universal Uclick issued a statement that the company is “taking the al-

legations very seriously, and will explore them thoroughly and quickly.”

“Until then, Tim has agreed to temporarily step back from any editorial role for both USA Today and Universal Crosswords,” the statement noted, adding it is offering crossword puzzles from a different source to client publications in the interim.

An editor’s note in USA Today — one of the largest circulation newspapers in the U.S. — stated

it “is investigating claims made by FiveThirtyEight.com that crossword puzzles provided by Universal Uclick and edited by Timothy Parker were plagiarized from parts of puzzles that appeared in The New York Times.”

Ken Crowell, a crossword puzzle enthusiast from Halifax, said “it’s good to know” Parker has been removed from his duties while the company’s investigation is underway.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Laos chaos ‘harrowing’

INTERVIEW

River actor recalls the difficulty of filming movie

First-time filmmaker Jamie Dagg certainly didn’t make it easy on himself when he decided to shoot in Laos.

His debut feature *River* follows a U.S. volunteer doctor scrambling to escape authorities when he intervenes in the rape of a Laos woman, and ends up killing the assailant.

Rossif Sutherland plays the bewildered American, whose desperate race to the embassy has him ducking through narrow neighbourhood streets and swimming across the murky Mekong River.

It’s a simple premise, but Sutherland says shooting in an impoverished country with little movie infrastructure made the process “a harrowing experience.”

“It was a really, really difficult film to do,” Sutherland says, noting it involved “a lot of guerilla filmmaking.”

“A lot of the film is about me being on the run and so I’m running through actual crowds and interacting with normal people who don’t always know they’re being filmed. And if they were

looking at anything, they were looking at the people holding the camera and not the lens itself.”

Dagg says he wrote the tale while living in Laos about five years ago. “I was thinking about how we as people all have the capacity for violence within us,” says Dagg, who will receive a Canadian Screen Award for best first feature this weekend.

“I was trying to think of ... what that perfect storm of circumstances would be to allow that to bubble to the surface and in this case, a healer becomes a killer.”

Initially, Dagg’s protagonist was a Canadian working in Laos. But then Dagg discovered Canada doesn’t have a diplomatic office there.

He says Canadians would have to go to the Australian embassy if they needed help and that was too complicated to address in the script.

Sutherland, nominated for a Canadian Screen Award for best actor, says the 31-day shoot required some nimble improvisation.

“Whenever there were moments that we felt that we could use, surprises in the environment that we were shooting in ... we would adapt and embrace the environment that we were in. So I never got to really leave character.”

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5 CANADIAN FILMS TO CELEBRATE

Canadian movies are as much a state of mind as they are a geographic location. It's really all about our collective desire to tell great stories. To mark Canadian Screen Week and Sunday's Canadian Screen Awards, here are five of movie critic Peter Howell's favourite Canuck films **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

**1 Stories We Tell (2012)**

Toronto actor/director Sarah Polley's personal documentary is extraordinary in every way, from its postmodern structure to the raw emotion of its carefully revealed family secrets. As the truth is teased out, along with multiple shocking revelations, the film becomes a thriller and also an intimate exposé of memory and reconciliation. *Stories We Tell* is as direct as a blood transfusion, but there's no clear path here. Just trust Polley's steely determination and follow her relentless lens.

2 A History of Violence (2005)

David Cronenberg's masterful modern western is based on a graphic novel. But it is born of the Toronto auteur's deep understanding of the dark side of the human psyche and how violence seeps into society's pores. Viggo Mortensen is a humble diner proprietor. Maria Bello is his wife, Edie, a lawyer with an equally placid practice. Two armed hoods enter Tom's diner seeking fast cash. They leave on slabs, and meek Tom is suddenly a national hero. But his bravery attracts a creep named Carl (Ed Harris), who insists Tom is a former mob hit man named Joey. Like westerns of old, the film finds universal truth in one man's reckoning with the demons of his past.



3 Juno (2007)

Canadian film pooh-bahs disagree with me that this is one of our national screen treasures, because it was made with U.S. bucks. But it was directed by Canadian-born Jason Reitman, it has Canadian lead stars Ellen Page and Michael Cera and it was filmed entirely in Vancouver and area. The best thing about *Juno* is that, for all its wiseacre badinage, it's utterly believable about the most basic of human situations.



4 Atanarjuat (The Fast Runner) (2001)

Zacharias Kunuk's Arctic adventure, set long before the white man at the dawn of the first millennium, sweeps away Nanook of the North stereotypes. From its breathtaking cinematography to its wonderfully realized characters and story, this first-ever feature made by and starring Inuit shows that great Canadian movies are everywhere, even as far north as Baffin Island. A horrifying act of violence is followed by an astonishing sight: A naked man runs barefoot for miles across the frozen tundra, pursued by killers. *Atanarjuat* delivers thrills and also a cinema triumph: a unique Canadian culture finally gets its due on the big screen.



5 Nobody Waved Good-bye (1964)

The recent death of Toronto writer/director Don Owen brought renewed attention to this early Canuck film classic, originally intended to be a short documentary on probation officers for the NFB, where Owen worked. He finagled it into a feature. Schools screened it as a sober warning about the perils of being a punk. James Dean got more fame and tears for his rebel character, but Owen and star Peter Kastner made an equally affecting and timeless portrait of disaffected youth. Watch it on NFB.ca.



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「本報記者採訪發現，不少商家在「雙11」期間，為了吸引顧客，紛紛推出各種優惠活動，如「買一送一」、「買二送一」等。然而，一些商家為了追求利潤，卻在商品質量上動了歪腦筋。有的商家將劣質商品混入其中，有的商家則在商品包裝上動手腳，以假亂真。這些行為嚴重損害了消費者的利益，也破壞了「雙11」的購物氛圍。」



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Canadian Screen Awards set to reveal more winners

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DRIVING MATTERS

Let's hear it for the nominees ...Norm style

CANADIAN SCREEN AWARDS

This year's CSA host talks hosting duties, SCTV heros

He's skewered Donald Trump, Bill Maher, and most famously, O.J. Simpson, but comic Norm Macdonald says he has no intention of attacking hometown celebs when he hosts the Canadian Screen Awards this weekend.

The standup star says he's preparing a monologue for Sunday's televised bash while sifting through submissions from other

writers tasked with filling out the rest of the show.

"Some of the jokes the writers were sending me were kind of like I was insulting everybody and I was like, 'Oh God, I don't want to do that,'" Macdonald says in a recent phone interview from his adopted home in Los Angeles.

"They had shown me ads where it was like, 'Guarantee to be offended.' It sounded like that was their tag line."

Catherine O'Hara was the greatest because she was like the sexiest, funny person, funniest girl that I ever saw.... It's very hard to be funny for a woman if they're that attractive but she was amazing.

Say what? Norm Macdonald on women in comedy



and I said, 'I'm not going to offend anybody.' So I asked them to not advertise it that way."

"I think they thought I'd be like Ricky Gervais or something."

The Quebec City-born Macdonald gushes over big comedy nominees including Eugene Levy and Catherine O'Hara, both up for acting awards for their turn as a downtrodden wealthy couple in CBC's Schitt's Creek.

"We all had our favourite SCTV guys, (I'd) watch SCTV more than Saturday Night Live," he says, pointing to the late John Candy as his favourite.

THE CANADIAN SCREEN AWARDS AIR ON CBC AT 8 P.M. EST.

"And Catherine O'Hara was the greatest because she was like the sexiest, funny person, funniest girl that I ever saw.... It's very hard to be funny for a woman

if they're that attractive but she was amazing."

Schitt's Creek tops the TV contenders with 14 nominations including best comedy. It already won six trophies at an early industry awards event but will seek the best comedy prize Sunday against the CBC/City laugher Mr. D, APTN's Mohawk Girls, Super Channel's Tiny Plastic Men and the City/CBC sitcom Young Drunk Punk.

On the film side, Room leads with 11 nominations, including best actress for Oscar-winner Brie Larson.

"I told (the writers) if she wins she should accept the award but she should be holding her Oscar the whole time ... and just never mention it," cracks Macdonald.

"(She should) say it's the greatest award she ever got."

Then there's the comically wide age gap between best actor rivals Christopher Plummer, nominated for the Nazi revenge thriller Remember, and the young Tremblay.

"It's like screaming out for a joke," Macdonald says of the Plummer-Tremblay race.

"It should be obvious but I haven't been able to figure it out yet. But we will. We'll crack it."

He mused on turning to previous Canadian Screen Award host Martin Short for tips, noting the former SCTV and SNL star will be on hand to accept a lifetime achievement award.

Norm Macdonald
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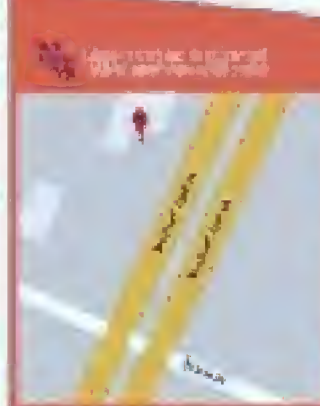
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Piles of cash are fake: Lawyers

50 CENT

Rapper's legal team has to defend Instagram pics

A bankruptcy court official on Wednesday urged a federal judge in Connecticut to order an independent review of rapper 50 Cent's assets, after questions were raised about his financial reporting and photos of him with piles of cash were posted online.

Holley Claiborn, an attorney for the U.S. Trustee's Office, called on the judge to appoint an examiner to determine if 50 Cent, whose name is Curtis Jackson III, is fully reporting his assets and income in his bankruptcy case. The rapper's lawyers and his creditors' attorneys opposed Claiborn's request.

"If debtors are not held accountable ... then we don't have any public confidence in the system," Claiborn told Judge Ann Nevins in Hartford.

Nevins didn't rule on the request Wednesday. She scheduled a status conference for April 6, but could issue a decision before then.

Jackson was ordered by Nevins to appear at Wednesday's hearing to explain photos he posted on his Instagram last year. They included ones of him sitting next to piles of cash arranged to spell "broke," him in a bed with wads of cash and cash stacks in a refrigerator.

Jackson, who wore a dark grey suit and didn't speak at the hearing, declined to comment afterward. His lawyers repeated Wednesday that the cash in the photos was fake and used just as marketing props to boost the rapper's brand and image.

On his Instagram page after the hearing, Jackson posted a photo of himself with a bag of M&M's and wads of what appears to be cash tucked halfway in the front of his pants. He wrote, "I went to court today and all I felt was love. They asked me about money I said I ain't got none, but if you want some m&m's here ya go."

Jackson's lawyers say in court documents that the bankruptcy filing was the result of several factors, mainly a \$17-million verdict against him in 2014 in a legal dispute over headphone products and a \$7-million verdict against him last year in a lawsuit filed by a woman who said he posted

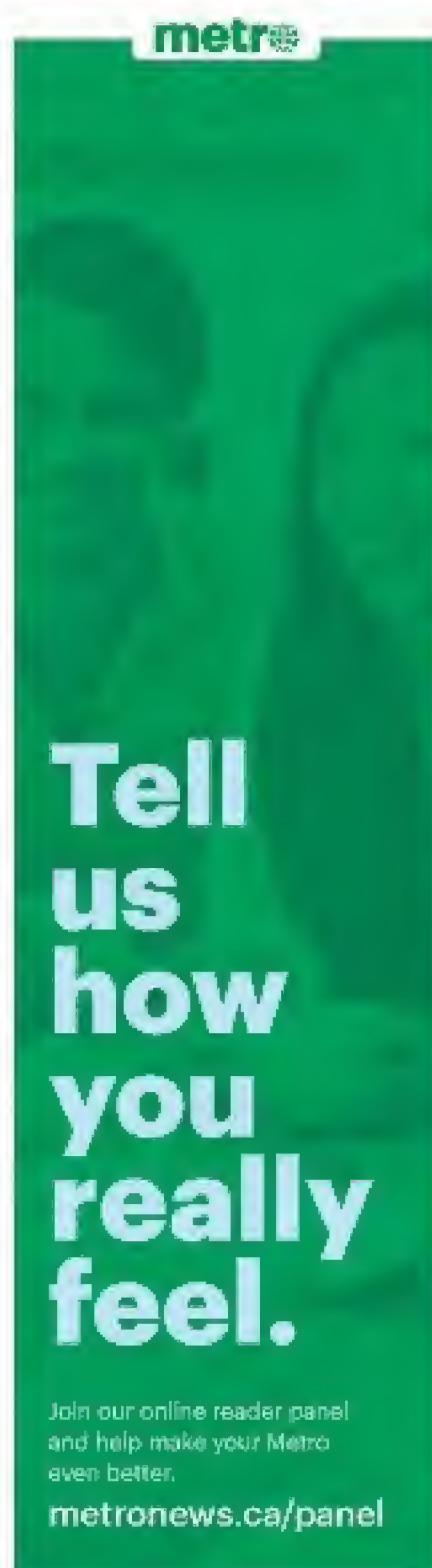


Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson arrives at court Wednesday for a federal bankruptcy hearing in Hartford, Conn. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

her sex tape online without her permission.

In the bankruptcy case, Jackson is proposing to pay about \$23 million in cash over five years as

well as up to 70 per cent of any award he wins in a legal malpractice case against his lawyers in the lawsuit over the headphone products. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Grégoire-Trudeau makes splash in DC

POLITICS

Meet up with the Obamas puts Sophie in the spotlight

It isn't easy being first lady. Michelle Obama is expected to be gracious but whip-smart, a good public speaker but not too opinionated, a tastemaker and fashion icon but humble and down-to-earth.

Canada doesn't have anything quite like the Office of the First Lady of the United States, which has its own duties and gendered contradictions. Our political wives tend to take a back seat, appearing on television rarely and in tabloids hardly ever.

But on Wednesday, when Sophie Grégoire-Trudeau touched down at Andrews Air Force Base, it was clear she had arrived not only in D.C., but as a political celebrity in her own right.

"I think she will probably garner more press as the wife of a prime minister than any others in my lifetime," said Rosemary Sexton, a former society columnist.

Surrounded by her children and greeted by Canadian-flag-waving fans, Grégoire-Trudeau positively glowed on the tarmac.

When Grégoire-Trudeau arrived this morning for the official welcome ceremony at the White House, looking resplendent in a Lucian Matis outfit, she was affectionately greeted with the prime minister by the Obamas and those in attendance.

"We have been so warmly welcomed. It's been a blessing," she said, with Obama at her side.

On Thursday, Grégoire-Trudeau attended a "spousal program" with Michelle Obama in honour of girls' education around the world, an issue that is close to Grégoire-Trudeau's heart.

"You be fearless... You know your rights... You fight for your rights," she said, speaking directly to young women around the world.

"Young people are the leaders of now."

Sexton praised Grégoire-Trudeau's outspokenness, and said it will win her many fans both in Canada and the U.S.

"I think she's something very different, that's where her appeal lies."

"The public today don't real-



Sophie Grégoire-Trudeau holds her son Hadrien Grégoire while she greets students from D.C.'s Patterson Elementary School on Wednesday. CLIFF OWEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ly want a traditional, conservative couple. They had that in the Harpers and Bushes, who were good role models for their times."

Not everything she does has been a success. An impromptu song in honour of Martin Luther King Jr. Day came across as more kooky than quirky. And while Michelle Obama is applauded for wearing Jason Wu and regularly

appears on *The View*, Grégoire-Trudeau earned eye rolls for daring to wear Oscar de la Renta in *Vogue*.

"Are Canadians more conservative about these things? Probably. And they're also more jealous. Canadians have that tall poppy syndrome, and when one of our own becomes a celebrity in a big, U.S. fashion magazine,

that's something that arouses envy in a lot of people," Sexton said.

Typically, the wives of Canadian prime ministers can have as much or as little involvement in public life as they wish. Margaret Trudeau was very much in the public eye, but more for her gallivanting than for her charity work. Laureen Harper largely

avoided the press, although she came out of her shell towards the end of her husband's career.

"She's the first lady of the United States and it's a defined role," Laureen Harper told the *Globe and Mail* about Michelle Obama in 2013. "I'm the wife of the Prime Minister — there's no first lady in Canada. ... [The Prime Minister's wife] can have a big role, a small role, whatever."

If a prime minister's wife does accompany her husband on a state visit, her main job is to project a positive image, said Margaret Huber, Canada's former chief of protocol and a past ambassador.

"It's not just what they wear, it's how they are seen to support/strengthen the overall visit," she told *Torstar News Service* in an email.

So far, Grégoire-Trudeau has balanced using her new role to do good with remembering that hers is an unelected position, Huber said.

Sexton said she expects Grégoire-Trudeau's warmth and candour to play well in the U.S., where "openness in political circles is even more prevalent than it is in Canada."

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Sophie's dress choice more than a dream for designer

FASHION

Lucian Matis pieces worn for debut at the White House



Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

The dress Sophie Grégoire-Trudeau chose for her official arrival at the White House was kept secret, unknown even to the designer who created it.

"When it comes to the government, everything's very hush-hush," said Lucian Matis, the Toronto designer who created the red and pink dress Grégoire-Trudeau wore on her state visit to the U.S. on Thursday.

It came as a surprise to him.

"This morning I got all these texts, social media started and then TV stations started calling," he said. "It's been a tremendous response, and it's quite overwhelming."

Six weeks ago, Matis received a call from Grégoire-Trudeau's stylist, Jessica Mulroney, requesting several dresses for the Prime Minister's wife

to try on. He fitted her for several, leaving her with many options and not knowing if she'd wear any.

But the dress, splashed with a silk appliqué of hand-painted orchids, stood out at the time.

"It's interesting, she was telling me about how she rarely wears crew neck, but because the dress is so fitted it still has enough sex appeal — that it's not too revealing and is appropriate for the occasion," Matis said.

Grégoire-Trudeau was a model client, Matis said.

"I didn't expect for her to be even more beautiful in person than she is photographed, surprisingly that's even possible," he said. "And she is very down to earth and very knowledgeable of fashion and her style."

The dress ended up as a perfect choice, he said.

"The red stood out beautifully against the background of people she was surrounded by because most people wore black or darker colours," he said.

"And it's a Canadian colour, our flag's colour, which is

wonderful."

Matis said the dress is part of his 2016 Spring/Summer collection but because he was caught by surprise he's not entirely sure which retailers are carrying it.

"I never dreamt that the first



I never dreamt that the first lady of Canada would be wearing it at the White House. I was quite, quite shocked.



Lucian Matis

lady of Canada would be wearing it at the White House," he said. "I was quite, quite shocked."

As of late Thursday afternoon, Matis had no idea what Grégoire-Trudeau would wear to the state dinner. "I don't know," he said. "Maybe one of ours, but maybe another Canadian designer."

Turns out, she chose a cap-sleeved embroidered purple dress by Lucian Matis.



Sophie Grégoire-Trudeau and First Lady Michelle Obama share a laugh during a ceremony at the White House Thursday. OLIVIER DOULIERY/GETTY IMAGES

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Loren Christie
For Metro Canada



Los Cabos has its sexy back. After being decimated by Hurricane Odile in September of 2014, this popular tourist area at the southernmost tip of Mexico's Baja Peninsula has reclaimed its status as the go-to destination for Hollywood A-listers, party goers and sun seekers happy to bask in the region's 350 days of average annual sunshine.

The sister cities of Cabo San Lucas and San José del Cabo and the 32-kilometre stretch of beaches and luxury resorts connecting the two make up the heart of the region.

Cabo San Lucas has the buzz, offering numerous water activities from SUP yoga to whale watching.

The bars and clubs were humming on the nights we were there and for those who prefer a quieter option there are a number of outstanding restaurants to choose from.

Our cliff side dinner under the moonlight at El Farallon was a highlight.

San José del Cabo is a quiet, more traditional Mexican town.

The Art Walk, held every



Orange Veuve Clicquot stations are the only things that break up the crisp white of the pool-side area. ALL PHOTOS PETER REMUS

Thursday evening between November and June is a great time to explore.

You can check out local art as you wander through the historic gallery district.

Pop into one of the higher end galleries where they give you a shot of tequila to help you drink in the art.

The recently re-opened 170 room ME Cabo is a shining example of the region's new and improved swagger.

While the renovated guestrooms and a new Peruvian dining experience are impressive, it is the revamped pool area that is truly the heartbeat of the hotel.

Pure white poolside furniture, including solid plastic wingback armchairs, gives it a crisp modern feel.

The splashes of orange that caught my eye when I first arrived turned out to be Veuve Clicquot branded champagne

buckets, conveniently placed within arms' reach of the chaise lounges.

A DJ booth on the upper level of the swim-up pool bar sets the tone for the day playing a specially curated music soundtrack that follows the sun, light and peppy for your morning coffee in the Beach Club and amped up party remixes in the heat of the afternoon.

Guest DJs, including the

likes of Hardwell and David Guetta, can turn a Saturday at the ME pool into Cabo's "It" destination.

Although I enjoyed the pool party vibe I am, at heart, more of a beach bum.

A week of surf and sand from the comfort of one of ME's private cabanas with a postcard view of Land's End, Cabo's famous rocky promontory, was how I got my groove back.



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Grammy museum opens in Mississippi

MUSEUM

Cleveland site of new music attraction

The second and only official Grammy Museum outside of Los Angeles opens Saturday in the Mississippi Delta, cradle of the blues.

Organizers chose Cleveland, Miss. — two hours north of the state capital Jackson — for the nearly \$20 million project and promise one of the most advanced museums in the country. It's a smaller but updated version of its sister museum in California and employs high-definition touchscreens and interactive technology to chronicle American music history from before the first Grammy Awards in 1959 to the present.

The bedrock of that history is the Mississippi Delta, said Bob Santelli, executive director of the Grammy Museum in Los Angeles. The rhythmic guitar and soulful ballads of bluesmen like Robert Johnson and B.B. King travelled up the Mississippi River and across the country, influencing nearly every style of American popular



A worker puts the final touches on a recording pod at the Grammy Museum Mississippi in Cleveland, Miss. Mississippi was chosen for its vital contribution to popular music — namely, African American blues musicians like Robert Johnson and B.B. King. ALL PHOTOS ROGELIO V. SOLIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

music including, jazz, hip-hop and rock 'n' roll.

The state also claims the most Grammy winners per capita in the world. "Isn't that wild?" Santelli said. "You take the state of Mississippi out of American music history and you have a very large gap to fill."

The blues mesmerized musicians ranging from Tupelo native Elvis Presley to The Beatles and more in generations since, said Patricia Walker, songwriter and head of Delta State University's music department. The original bluesmen — mostly African-American men living in

the Jim Crow era of discrimination in the South — lived off the land and eased their hardships through music.

"Everybody at one time or another has had the blues," Walker said. "The musicians that came out of here had to dig deep in the soil to make

a living, and they dug deep to capture those feelings in their music."

Officials designed the museum — the most upscale building to come to the region — with the Delta's history in mind. Corrugated metal on the building's exterior is a nod to the

“

There's something in the water here, in the dirt. It's very deep. It's very real.

Jessica Faith,
musician

tin metal sharecropper shacks many blues musicians grew up in. The entrance looks like a big front porch, a common feature of many Delta homes.

Cleveland Chamber of Commerce Director Judson Thigpen estimates the museum could bring in about \$20 million annually as a tourist draw to the entire region.

The museum was a collaborative effort to spotlight the Delta's music legacy, said Allen Hammons who helped establish the B.B. King Museum in Indianola, Miss., as well as a Blues Trail along highways in the state.

In 2011 Hammons joined Walker and others to form the Cleveland Music Foundation, a non-profit foundation that built and operates the museum.

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AUSTRALIA

More 'Apostles' turn up 'drowned' at popular site

A popular Australian tourist attraction, a series of limestone stacks off the south coast known as the Twelve Apostles, could become a bigger draw after researchers Thursday said they found five more columns under the sea.

The find, about six kilometres offshore from the Great Ocean Road and 50 metres below the surface, was discovered during sonar mapping of the sea floor off the Victoria state coast, University of Melbourne scientists said in findings published in the *Journal of Coastal Research*.

"This is the first of their kind (limestone stacks preserved in the ocean) that we've found so far," Rhianon Bezore of the university's geography department told AFP.

"When we did find them, it was quite a shock. They are pretty unique features and we don't expect to find sea stacks that are not eroded ... the fact that these are preserved at that depth is very unique."

The Twelve Apostles, a series of giant rock formations of different heights in the Southern



Waves crash into the base of natural limestone structures known as the Twelve Apostles in Victoria. INDRANIL MUKHERJEE/AFP

Ocean off the Great Ocean Road about 230 kilometres southwest of Melbourne, started forming 20 million years ago when erosion gradually began whittling away the nearby limestone cliffs.

But columns under the water are unusual as sea stacks usually erode and collapse as the sea level rises.

Bezore said the five columns, dubbed the "Drowned Apostles" by scientists, likely dated back some 60,000 years.

They were preserved as that period was after a "glacial max-

imum" — a glacial period or ice age — when sea levels were rising "very very quickly... at least twice as quickly as the rate it is today", she added.

"The reason that they survived is because as the sea level rose after they were formed, it must have been rising at such a fast pace that they were submerged before the waves had the chance to erode them away and they collapse," Bezore said.

One of the Twelve Apostles' limestone pillars, a 45-metre rock pile, collapsed in 2005.

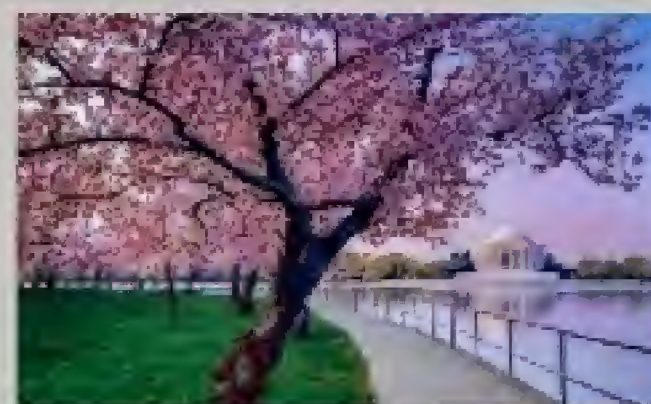
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TRAVEL NOTES AMERICA, HOME AND ABROAD

Park Service revises prediction for peak of cherry blossoms

Unseasonably warm weather has prompted the U.S. National Park Service to revise its prediction for peak blooms for Washington's cherry blossom trees. The agency said in a news release Tuesday that it has revised the projected dates to March 18-23. Peak bloom is when 70 per cent of the trees around the Tidal Basin are in blossom. Last week, they announced the projected dates were between March 31 and April 3. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Cherry Blossoms are expected early in D.C.

Senator urges rule changes so U.S. hotels can operate in Cuba

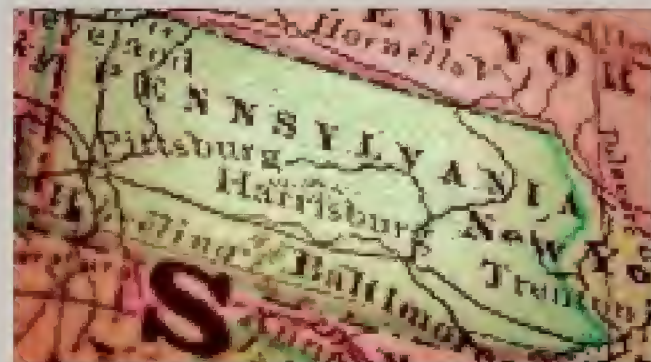
A U.S. senator is urging the Obama administration to ease restrictions on investment in Cuba so American hotels can operate in the island nation. Amy Klobuchar, a Democrat, says that as diplomatic relations improve, business opportunities will grow. Klobuchar says hotel operators from Spain and the Britain are already negotiating deals to build hotels in Cuba. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Many are eyeing Cuba's tourist industry.

Pennsylvania turns to 'happiness' for new tourism motto

Pennsylvania is turning to the Declaration of Independence to inspire its new tourism motto. State officials unveiled the slogan "Pennsylvania. Pursue Your Happiness" and a logo on Tuesday. The slogan takes the place of The State of Independence, the winner in a 2004 contest. Before that, state tourism slogans were Pennsylvania Memories Last a Lifetime, You've Got a Friend in Pennsylvania, and America Starts Here. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



"Pennsylvania. Pursue Your Happiness," says the state's tourist board. ALL PHOTOS ISTOCK

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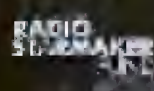
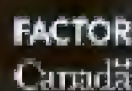
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Tom Brady's two-year extension with the Pats will give him a \$28-million signing bonus and adds \$41 million to his deal should he play it out



NBA RAPTORS GET FACE TIME WITH HAWKS

Hawks forward Paul Millsap plows into Raptors point guard Kyle Lowry on Thursday night at Air Canada Centre. DeMar DeRozan scored 30 points and Lowry added 19 to lead the Raptors to a 104-96 win. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

BRIER CURLING

Page playoff window closing

Alberta's Kevin Koe and Brad Gushue of Newfoundland and Labrador joined Northern Ontario's Brad Jacobs in the playoff mix at the Tim Hortons Brier on Thursday.

Manitoba's Mike McEwen was the favourite to earn the fourth and final spot with two draws of round-robin play to go.

The playoff picture became clearer at the national men's curling championship after the morning draw. Several teams — including Canada's Pat Simmons — were left clinging to the faint chance of an appearance in a tiebreaker game.

Gushue came through with a hit on his final throw to edge B.C.'s Jim Cotter 8-7 while Koe dumped Simmons 8-3.

Jacobs and McEwen had the morning off. When the two teams played in the afternoon,

unbeaten Northern Ontario picked up an 8-5 win to secure a berth in the Page playoff 1-2 game.

Gushue will provide the opposition for Jacobs on Friday night after he outscored Prince Edward Island's Adam Casey 11-7.

After 15 draws, Jacobs was 9-0 and Gushue was next at 9-1. Koe was in third place at 7-3 and McEwen held fourth place at 6-3.

Team Canada headed into its evening match against Ontario with a record of 5-5. Its players were crushed after the morning loss.

"You look at those top four teams that are going to be in the playoffs and we didn't beat any of them," said Canada lead Nolan Thiessen. "So that's a recipe for going home early."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

One-game clash for the Clarkson Cup

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Canadiennes, Inferno meet for league title

The 2016 Clarkson Cup is more Super Bowl than Frozen Four.

The Montreal Canadiennes and Calgary Inferno square off Sunday afternoon at Canadian Tire Centre in Ottawa in a one-game, winner-takes-the-Cup championship.

The Clarkson Cup was a four-team tournament since its inception in 2009 and resembled the NCAA's Frozen Four.

There are several reasons for changing the format of the Canadian Women's Hockey League's showcase event, according to commissioner Brenda Andress. Maximizing available time slots both on television and in an NHL arena are two of them.

"The timing of it on a Sunday, it's good for TV viewership for sure," Inferno captain Brianne Jenner said. "To see the Ottawa Senators offer up their rink for the Clarkson Cup is another step in the right direction."

The semifinal games, once part of the Clarkson Cup tournament, were turned into separate best-of-three playoff series Feb. 26-27.

The Canadiennes (21-3) and Inferno (16-8) finished first and second respectively in the regu-



Canadiennes goaltender Charline Labonte stops the Inferno's Jillian Saulnier during CWHL action in February. DAVE HOLLAND/CALGARY INFERNO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

lar season. They had home-ice advantage in sweeping the Toronto Furies and Brampton Thunder in two straight.

"We wanted to provide the opportunity for those fans who supported them all year long to see the first round," Andress explained.

"It's also a good thing for competitiveness. Why should I finish first or second? You get the hometown series."

The Inferno lineup includes the likes of Hayley Wicken-

12

The number of players in the championship game that were named to the Canadian roster for the upcoming women's world hockey championship.

Philip Poulin and goaltender Charline Labonte.

The Canadiennes were 4-2 versus the Inferno during the regular season.

"Both teams play with a lot of speed and a lot of offence," said the Canadiennes' Julie Chu. "I think we're going to see a lot of that, especially the transition game is going to be huge."

"We know it's a one-shot deal and we've got to be prepared. Everyone should be really well tested." THE CANADIAN PRESS

heiser, Rebecca Johnston and Meaghan Mikkelson, while the Canadiennes are led by Marie-

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IN BRIEF

Osweler bolts to Texans

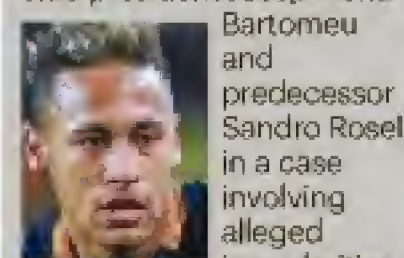
Brock Osweler signed his four-year, \$72-million deal with the Houston Texans on Thursday, making the quarterback with all of seven NFL starts one of the league's highest-paid players.

Osweler agreed to leave the Denver Broncos when free agency began, leaving a pending starting job with the Super Bowl champions to become Houston's QB.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Barca presidents off hook

Barcelona says a local court has accepted an appeal by club president Josep Maria Bartomeu and predecessor Sandro Rosell in a case involving alleged irregularities around Neymar's transfer in 2013.



Neymar
GETTY IMAGES

The club says the ruling means Barcelona and the presidents are no longer defendants in the case involving the Brazilian striker. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jays keep spring roll going

GRAPEFRUIT LEAGUE

Bautista makes debut, hits the dirt against Yanks reliever

New York Yankees closer Aroldis Chapman and Toronto slugger Jose Bautista made their spring training debuts Thursday during the Blue Jays' 11-4 win over a Yankees' split squad.

Chapman hit Bautista with a pitch in the fifth, when the left-hander gave up a run, hit two batters and walked two others during two-thirds of an inning. Chapman reached 99 miles an hour and was consistently around 95-97, but 17 of his 26 pitches were balls.

"A slider in the dirt and it hit my (right) foot," Bautista said. "It's his first outing, too. He's all over the place, which is normal for a pitcher. They're excited, it's the first time. He had a long off-season. He's probably feeling great, so he's trying to harness all his strength and velocity."

Acquired from Cincinnati in December, Chapman will begin serving a 30-game suspension at



Jose Bautista gathers himself at ground level, after being hit by an Aroldis Chapman pitch. CHRIS O'MEARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

the start of the season, a penalty he agreed to under baseball's new domestic violence policy.

"Just because I didn't have my control today doesn't mean I have to worry about it," Chapman said through a translator. "This is spring training."

Bautista was a designated hitter for five innings. He earlier popped out and struck out.

Toronto delayed Bautista's first game in an effort to help

him stay stronger throughout the season. The 35-year-old had 40 homers and 114 RBIs last season.

"The normal first game," Bautista said. "You kind of get a feel

for it. Saw some good pitches. I was tracking the ball. I felt like I was picking it up good out of their hand. A good day."

Andrew Miller, who will retain the closer role during Chap-

He's embarrassing to all the Latin players, whoever played before him.

Hall of Fame relief pitcher Rich (Goose) Gossage criticized Blue Jays star Jose Bautista for his controversial bat flip

UP NEXT

Marcus Stroman will pitch for the third time this spring. Friday against Boston.

man's absence, gave up four hits, including a two-run single to Josh Donaldson in the third.

Drew Hutchison, bidding for the fifth starter spot, allowed two runs and three hits over 2-2/3 innings.

Switch-pitcher Pat Venditte, a former Yankee, struck out one in a perfect seventh.

First baseman Edwin Encarnacion, whose spring debut was set back by an abscessed tooth, could play next week.

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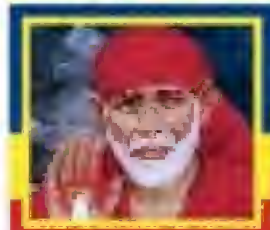
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CFL

Additional video official proposed

The CFL's rules committee is recommending the addition of another video official this season.

The official would be in the league's command centre and able to fix obvious errors that aren't challengeable by replay. He'd have access to a feed from a special camera that would capture all 24 players on the field.

The recommendation highlights proposed changes made Thursday by the committee, which must be approved by the



It could help reduce the number of incorrect flags that were thrown.

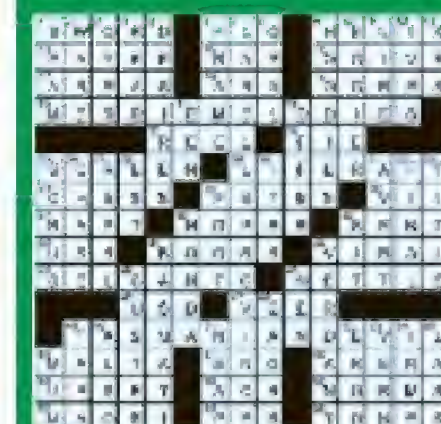
Glen Johnson, the CFL's senior vice-president of football

CFL's board of governors April 7 to be implemented.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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7	8	5	2	9	3	1	6	4
3	2	1	6	4	8	9	5	7
6	4	9	5	7	1	2	8	3
8	9	2	7	5	4	3	1	6
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DAILY WARM UP



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RECIPE Coconut French Toast



PHOTO: MAYA VIVIER

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

You could get organized for a leisurely breakfast. Or, you could remind yourself that you're an adult and if you want to have French toast for dinner on a Friday night, you darn well can.

Ready in
Prep time: 10 minutes
Total time: 20 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
• 1/2 cup shredded coconut
• 1 cup coconut milk
• 3 eggs
• 1 Tbsp sugar
• 1/2 tsp cinnamon
• Pinch salt
• 8 thick slices of thick bread
• Pat of butter for cooking

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 F.
2. Sprinkle the shredded coconut on a baking sheet and place in the oven for about 10 minutes, stirring once, until the coconut just begins to brown. Remove and set aside.
3. In a shallow bowl, whisk together coconut milk, eggs, sugar, cinnamon and salt until everything is well combined.
4. Dip your bread into the egg mixture and allow it sit for a couple of minutes on each side to really drink it in.
5. In a large skillet, melt the butter over medium heat then lay down your soaked bread. Allow each side to cook until golden brown, about 3 to 5 minutes each side.
6. Repeat with the second batch. Serve with a sprinkling of toasted coconut and maple syrup.

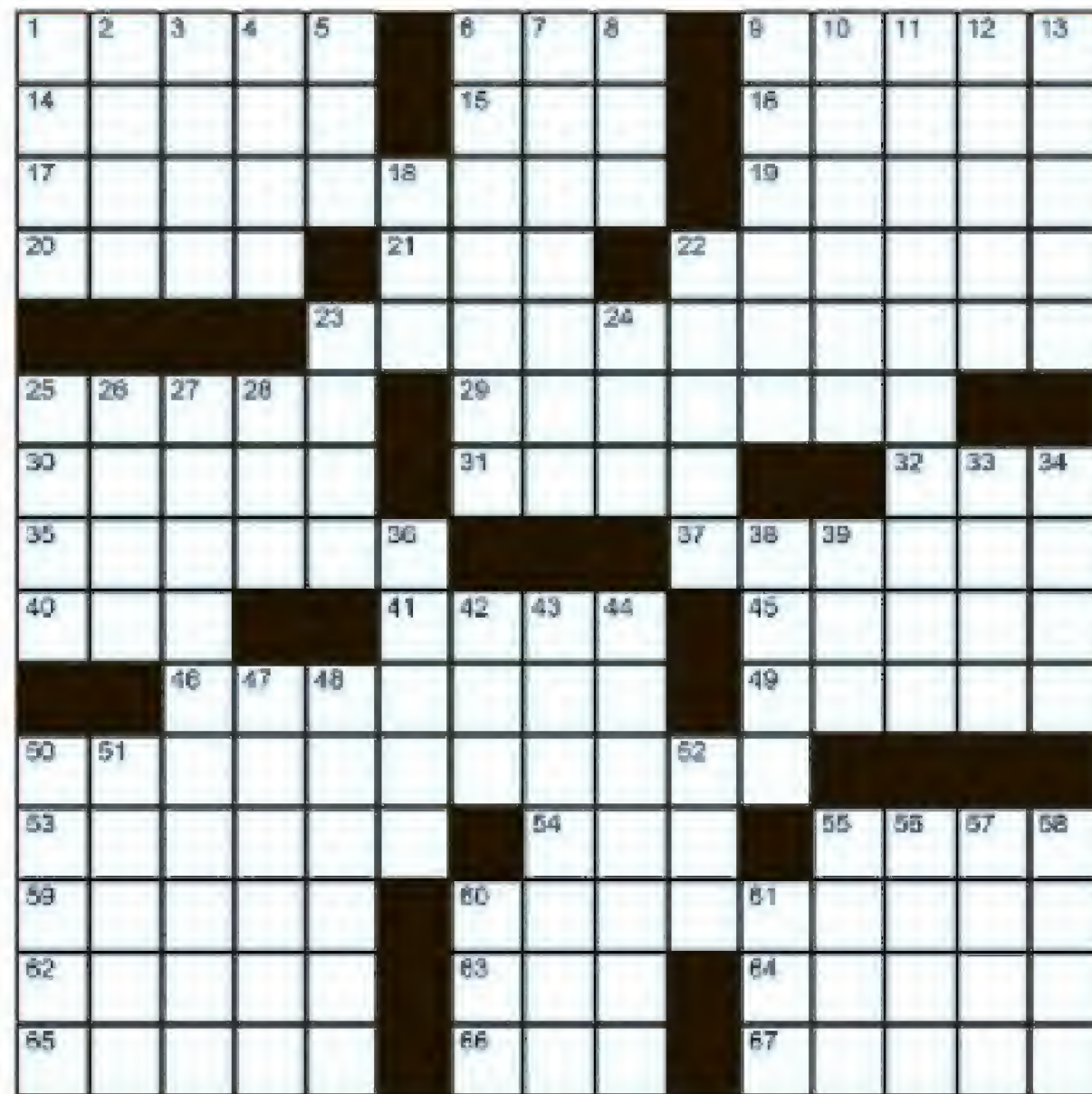
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Full range
6. Reporter's need
9. Financial investments for the future, commonly
14. England: The O2, for one, in London
15. 'Ear'-meaning prefix
16. Other, in Outremont
17. Things to fasten in the car
19. Hair accessory
20. Gloriette
21. Un-truth
22. Comparably lengthy: 2 wds.
23. "The Red Green Show" hang-out: 2 wds.
25. Steve Miller Band's "The _"
29. _ _ _ Channel (Canadian network delivering around-the-clock headlines)
30. Country rocker Steve
31. Golfing great Mr. Aoki
32. Hebrides hat
35. "The Ren & _ Show" (Cartoon created by #27-Down)
37. Ground sesame paste
40. Canada's buy-from-home network
41. Dwindles
45. Strikes of lightning
46. Eat healthy and exercise ...do this as a result: 2 wds.
49. Comic actor Eric's



50. Quilted gift of honour in Plains cultures: 2 wds.
53. "Oh, well, I'll manage": 2 wds.
54. Faint
55. Conserve
59. _ _ Cologne
60. Airport-to-limo-to-estate-to-yacht sort

62. Industrial hub in the Ruhr
63. Supper-time scrap
64. Global Warming treaty city in Japan
65. Mixes
66. 'Heir' suffix
67. Montreal's old baseball team

DOWN

1. Large cut
2. "Diamonds _ _ Girl's Best Friend"
3. Dish
4. Posh preposition
5. Diet soft drink
6. College major, commonly: 2 wds.
7. Bears witness

8. Lively parties
9. Compete in the WWE, colloquially
10. Be short on supplies: 2 wds.
11. What time did for that seeming eternity: 2 wds.
12. Time
13. Swamp plant

18. Fitting-here British gr.
22. "I _ _ the least bit surprised." (Told you so)
23. Get set
24. Lettered sun ray
25. Witticism
26. The Quaker _ Company
27. The 'K' of Canadian animator John K's name
28. Tree type
33. Status quo _ (The way things existed before, in Latin)
34. Leave out
36. Shout!
38. Somewhat: 2 wds.
39. Load-of-bricks holder
42. Gallery director's deg., perhaps
43. 3-ringed school supplies
44. Caribbean resort isl. near Nevis: 2 wds.
47. Wind, water or ice ...to rock over time
48. "The Beverly Hills-billies" star Buddy's
50. Daggers
51. Browned bread
52. Letters to follow Ells
55. "Mr. Rob-oto" band
56. On
57. Quash
58. Cupid's Greek counterpart
60. Mr. Pesci
61. Also, archaically

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
If you want to be successful you must be consistent. You may want to change things around but you must either move in a new direction and stay moving in that direction, or resist the temptation altogether.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Are you dissatisfied with your lot? Are your talents are being wasted? If so, do something about it. That means now, not tomorrow or the day after. And it means something real, not just another daydream.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You must push your own needs and desires aside and do what you can to help those who, for whatever reason, are incapable of helping themselves.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Something you see or hear will get you thinking along new lines and there's no telling in which direction your thoughts will take you. It's time to leave your comfort zone. There's a whole world out there waiting.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Any doubts you may have about a money matter will be swept aside. Cosmic activity in the wealth area of your chart suggests that if you take a risk it will pay off big time.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Friends can only help you so much — you must have the courage to follow your star. Jupiter in your sign indicates wild success but the day-to-day effort must come from you.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Others may counsel caution but if you listen to all those who have something negative to say you would never get much done. Despite their misgivings the world is not all bad.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Sit back, relax and let fate guide you. You may have big ambitions but you don't have to hammer away at them each and every day. Even a Scorpio needs some down time. You certainly will need it today.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
It's time to get serious about what you want to accomplish. Never doubt that you have something to offer. You're a Sagittarius — you were born to make a difference.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You will eventually get the chance to rise in your work or career, but it will happen sooner if you get in the habit of believing that you deserve to be a leader rather than a follower. Take advantage of new opportunities.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You're worrying too much about planning. Once the ball starts rolling most problems will take care of themselves. And don't try to do it all on your own. There's always someone you can turn to.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Certain people are trying to keep you out of the information loop but today will reveal why they found it hard to confide in you.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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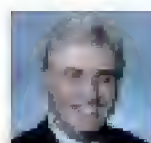
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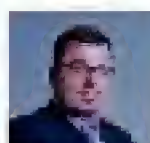
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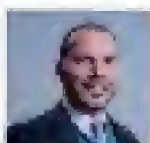
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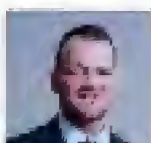
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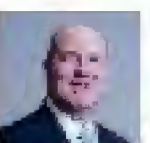
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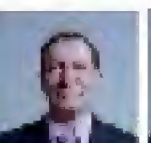
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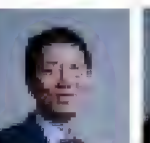
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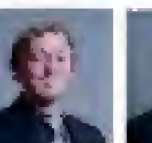
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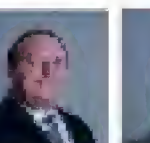
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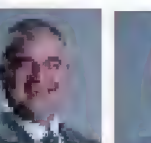
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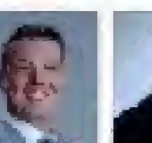
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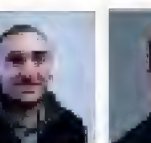
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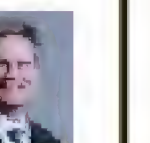
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